Tuesday June 30 1998

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Violent protests as suspects deny any part in murder

Lawrence inquiry fiasco

David Pallister and Rory Carroll

THE parents of Stephen Lawrence yesterday begged black militants not to turn the public inquiry into their son's murder into a circus after furious protests by members of the Nation of Islam led to scenes of violence and farce.

Doreen and Neville Lawrence had waited five years to see five white youths answer questions about their movements on the night of Stephen's death and their attitude to black people. But within an hour, the cross-examination had been halted amid pandemonium as police fired CS gas on demonstrators outside the building.

Gasps and jeers had erupted from the public gallery as Jamie Acourt, aged 22, denied being a racist or ever carrying knives. Within seconds of his cross-examination starting, the inquiry chairman, Sir William Macpherson, warned him against committing perjury, and the Lawrence family savoured a moment that eluded them through five years, two trials and a coroner's inquest.

But shortly afterwards, chaos erupted as a group from the Nation of Islam invaded the council chamber, following serious scuffles outside. As the phalanx of militants — wearing dark suits, white shirts and red bow ties — marched down the room, Acourt was bundled by police out of a back door.

The leader of the group, wearing a sophisticated wire radio transmitter, bellowed at Sir William: "This is a sham. You are stopping the people from coming into the inquiry."

To the astonished Mr and Mrs Lawrence, they shouted: "You have got to stand firm brothers. Slavery is over."

The inquiry was adjourned for three hours, when the Lawrences' barrister, Michael Mansfield, resumed questioning Acourt and two others of the five-man gang.

Pressed on evidence that they carried knives in public and were racists, the three were taciturn and hostile.

Like his brother, Neil Acourt, 22, said he was unable to remember details. He repeatedly denied being a racist and said remarks made on a secret police surveillance tape were "a joke".

He said he was angry at having been accused of Stephen's murder and had been "persecuted" ever since. Fear of attack had forced him to start carrying a knife for protection. "I have never done anything wrong," he said.

David Norris, 21, said there was "no evidence whatsoever" against him, and he had been very angry at being accused of the killing.

Earlier it seemed unlikely the inquiry would resume following the disruption. CS gas from four floors down floated up the lifts at Hannibal House in London's Elephant and Castle, injuring four security guards. Doreen Lawrence rushed to a microphone in an attempt to restore calm. "At no time have we ever disrupted anything," she shouted. "Behaving in this manner, it doesn't help. Please, please keep calm in order for us to continue. The police attitudes towards us and my family and people in the black community have been disgraceful. But for the safety of everybody, please could you keep calm."

A few minutes later Mr

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> 'I'm going to be walking out of here with nothing. We have tried to be as dignified as possible. What's happened here will get us branded as hooligans.'
>
> **Neville Lawrence**



Jamie Acourt, one of the five suspected of killing Stephen Lawrence, arrives to give evidence at the inquiry yesterday

Eyre report will damn Royal Opera House board

Dan Glaister Arts Correspondent

THE present board and management of the Royal Opera House are to be fiercely criticised by Sir Richard Eyre in his report into the provision of lyric theatre in London, to be published today.

After more than seven months and 25 drafts, Sir Richard's report will say that the ROH has circumvented proper channels in its attempt to gain favour.

The ROH is accused of bypassing its principal funding body, the Arts Council, which is responsible for administering £15 million of subsidy to the ROH, as well as £78.5 million of Lottery money towards its £213 million redevelopment.

Questions are also raised about the number of free tickets distributed to opinion formers, including politicians.

But on the vexed question of privatisation, one of the possibilities raised by an all-party committee of MPs last year, the Eyre report argues that this must be a political decision, and should not be undertaken on the advice of an ad hoc working group. Sir Richard effectively passes the hot potato of privatisation back to the Culture Secretary, Chris Smith.

As predicted, the report's bottom line is that although the ROH has been run inefficiently, the only way it can function after it reopens is with increased subsidy.

It is understood that a letter from the ROH chairman, Sir Colin Southgate, to Mr Smith arguing that the opera could only survive with an extra £10 million to £15 million subsidy per year was prompted by Sir Richard's investigations. That it took Sir Richard's group to discover the extent of the ROH's financial problems is viewed as an indication of the inefficiency of the ROH.

The Arts Council is also panned in the report, for its failure to properly monitor the ROH, particularly during the Lottery-funded rebuilding, and for not insisting that the ROH should close during the rebuilding period. Instead, the ROH's two resident companies, the Royal Ballet and the Royal Opera, have embarked on a two-year touring programme, which has cost millions of pounds.

Sadler's Wells and the English National Opera, which were both drawn into the report when Mr Smith broadened its remit to include the provision of all lyric theatre in London, are thought to emerge unscathed from the report.

The make-up of ENO's management team is praised, and problems with its Coliseum home are noted, while it is recommended that more time is set aside for dance weeks.

Sir Richard worked with a three-person team based at the Department of Culture, Media and Sport. Although this has led to accusations that the report was in some way "nobbled", those familiar with the process say that the team was merely acting as a secretariat. The words "Richard Eyre Review" were posted on the door of the office, and it had no contact with the rest of the department.

Whether the Eyre report will produce the same turmoil at the ROH as the last public document about it remains to be seen.

Publication of the so-called Kaufman Report, the report of the culture select committe, at the end of last year, led to the resignation of the ROH chairman, Lord Chadlington, and eventually of the entire board.

Orangemen vow to defy Drumcree ban

Loyalists intend to stretch forces wide to push march through

John Mullin Ireland Correspondent

ORANGEMEN last night appeared to be heading for clashes with the RUC and army after vowing to defy a ban on their traditional route on the Drumcree march, a notorious annual flashpoint in Northern Ireland.

They confirmed that they will attempt to march down the nationalist Garvaghy Road in Portadown after Sunday's church service in Drumcree, Co Armagh. The Parades Commission, which rules on contentious marches, decided they must avoid the road.

David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist leader, was appalled. He was seeking a meeting with Ronnie Flanagan, the RUC chief constable, who has the power to overturn the decision on the day on the ground of public safety.

A massive security operation, with the purpose of preventing Orangemen from all over Northern Ireland descending on the area, is expected. Widespread roadblocks are under consideration, but violent clashes appear to be inevitable.

More than 100 district masters were last night meeting to draw up plans to stretch security forces throughout the province. More than 1,000 extra troops are already in Portadown.

Security forces fear that the Loyalist Volunteer Force, now observing a ceasefire, might play a role behind the scenes to help the Orangemen to force their way through police and army lines.

The Orangemen forced a stand-off for five days in 1996, when their way was barred. Loyalists murdered Michael McGoldrick, aged 31, a taxi-driver from nearby Lurgan, and the police eventually allowed the marchers through.

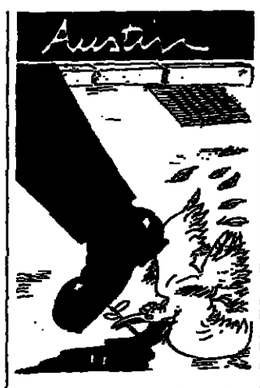
The Drumcree parade was last year allowed to go down the Garvaghy Road when Mr Flanagan said he feared loss of life if it were banned. Nationalists were outraged.

The march, which first took place in 1807, is increasingly seen as a microcosm of the shifting fortunes of the Unionist and nationalist communities in Northern Ireland.

The Orange Order, with 80,000 members, is overwhelmingly opposed to the Good Friday Agreement. It believes its age-old rights are gradually being eroded, and that a united Ireland is on the way.

But nationalists are unwilling to stand any longer for Orange "triumphalism", and deny that the opposition at the Garvaghy Road is Sinn Fein-inspired.

The Orangemen have ruled out blockading the international airport and ferry ports, as they did in 1996. But they want to weaken the army and



RUC presence on the Garvaghy Road in the hope that they can force their way through. They say publicly that they want all protests to be peaceful, but they concede in private that violence is inevitable.

David Jones, of the Portadown district of the Orange Order, said: "We will march to the church as usual, and then we will take out usual route as far as we can go. We will stay there for as long as it takes to get through. We are marching for our freedom."

A senior figure said: "There is a principle for us in this. For Sinn Fein, it is only a tactic. We will not back down."

Alastair Graham, chairman of the Parades Commission, made it clear that one of the key reasons for the commission's ruling was the Orange Order's failure to to discuss a compromise with residents. The Orangemen also refuse to meet the commissioners, describing them as bigoted.

Mr Graham said: "Drumcree has become the touchstone, the litmus test, the line in the sand, the landmark event in the whole parading issue in Northern Ireland. And we all know that this one is not simply about the parade itself; is not just about getting Orange feet on, or keeping them off the Garvaghy Road."

He added: "We need to break the cycle in 1998. The opportunity provided by such a break should be seized by political, community and religious leaders to demonstrate greater responsibility, and to make strident efforts to bridge the chasm between both sides of the community, so laying the foundations for a more tolerant atmosphere in the future."

Breandan MacCionnaith, a representative of the Garvaghy Road residents, said: "We are not gloating in any way. But this is the acid test of Tony Blair and the Good Friday Agreement. He must use all resources to make sure that this ban is observed. We will continue with out protest on Saturday because we do not trust Ronnie Flanagan not to push the march through on the day."

Meanwhile, Lord Alderdice surprised colleagues in the centrist Alliance Party by stepping down as leader ahead of tomorrow's inaugural meeting of the assembly. The Alliance won only six seats in the 108-member parliament.

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In the G2 find: Francis Wheen, Britain's most irreverent columnist, and our Society pages

Sketch

Pray, where's the spiritual touch?



Simon Hoggart

PETER Mandelson was attacked yesterday, as usual, over the contents of the Millennium Dome.

How, asked Tim Loughton (C. Worthing East), could anyone enjoy contemplation in the Spirit Zone, with the roar of the Blackwall Tunnel underneath, a circus nearby, "and not a crucifix in sight?"

Mr Mandelson replied solemnly that there would be, somewhere in the Dome, a place for private prayer. (Though if it's like other theme park attractions, the queues will be endless, with signs saying: "At this point you are 90 minutes from the Lost Orison Experience.") He added: "Churches are setting up many events, centred on Pentecost 2000."

Pentecost 2000! It's a perfect New Labour-style name: pure PR-babble, and also quite inaccurate, since Pentecost occurred more than 30 years after the birth of Christ. Perhaps it was an Early Pledge.

You could rename all the events in the Christian calendar. Christmas could become Nativity Year Zero, Good Friday would bring us Hanging On In There '33, and Casting out the Money Lenders would change its theme altogether: In Partnership with the Business Community.

Mr Mandelson appeared at the end of an intriguing session. For the first time we heard from Peter Ainsworth, a person of whom I, until yesterday, was as ignorant as you probably are, and yet who is now a member of Mr Hague's Shadow Cabinet, as spokesman on culture.

Mr Ainsworth has an incredible hair-do, a massive curly confection, like cream squeezed on to a rum baba by some gigantic baker. If you dyed it red, he could captain the Colombian football team.

He is also that uniquely annoying combination, an investment banker who thinks he's a man of the people. He chipped in at a question about the seaside towns.

He had been told, he said, that there were to be tours of these places by ministers, but that these had now been cancelled. "It was to have been called the Seaside Rock Tour, or some such."

The only help the seaside had received, however, was a tide of regulation. "Far from getting a Kiss Me Quick on the prom, any minister visiting the seaside this summer is likely to be told exactly where to stick his rock!"

I wondered briefly what Harold Macmillan would have made of Mr Ainsworth. I suspect he would have told his gardener to spray him with something.

Next we had a battle between Tony Banks and his old enemy, Michael Fabricant. It was like one of those Japanese monster movies: Godzilla versus Mothra the Destroyer. You may not care too much about the result, but it's fun watching the battle.

Mickey asked, sarkily, whether Mr Banks stood any better chance of getting the World Cup for Britain in 2006 than "he was in getting an increase in tickets for England's game tomorrow".

Mr Banks exploded. "I am *not* Tone the Tout," he yelled. "I do not have tickets at my disposal . . . I would love to be responsible for the ticket allocation — I might even find one for the honourable gentleman," then, remembering to whom he spoke, "or not, as the case might be."

Mickey looked as abashed as he ever looks. Then, moments later, a Labour MP, Helen Jones, had a whinge about the amount of Millennium funding going to her constituency.

Normally ministers would answer with a parade of misleading statistics, plus some oratorical sleight-of-hand about regional variations, and hope to shut the MP up that way.

Not Tony Banks. "That *is* a bit of a bummer," he mused, to the delighted astonishment of all sides.

Pakistani nuclear attack on India? "Bummer." Interest rates up? "Bummer." Prayer modules in the Dome? "Way cool." The Banks approach to political rhetoric is certainly up-to-date. May it catch on.



Cherie Blair plays with children at a north London primary school yesterday at the launch of a week to publicise after-school clubs. Earlier, she had toured Gospel Oak After-School Club in Kentish Town PHOTOGRAPH: STEFAN ROUSSEAU

Upturn in home loan arrears

Teresa Hunter

MORTGAGE arrears have begun to rise for the first time since the depths of the last recession as borrowers show signs of struggling to cope with six successive interest rate rises.

The head of the Council of Mortgage Lenders, Michael Coogan, said yesterday that figures due out next month would show the first rise in short-term arrears since repossessions peaked at 75,540 in 1991.

He said: "The indications are that some people are experiencing difficulties. Our arrears and repossessions figures for the first half of 1998 are not yet complete, but so far the evidence is that there has been a significant increase in the numbers falling behind with their mortgage repayments.

"We thought we had reached the statistical bottom of the cycle, but it is worrying to see short-term arrears climbing again. Unless this problem is sensibly managed, the fear must be that these short-term arrears will develop into much more serious problems, which could see repossessions soaring again."

Repossessions are now running at 32,000 a year, although the Government assumes they will continue at a rate of 30,000 a year for the foreseeable future.

During the last housing recession, more than 400,000 properties were repossessed, the equivalent of the combined population of Sheffield and Nottingham. Around 1,000 families a week lost their homes for five years. More than a million more were ensnared in homes worth less than they had paid for them. Many of these people have only very recently escaped the debt trap.

And further interest rate rises could be on the way. Deutsche Bank economist James Barty believes another 0.25 per cent rise will hit homeowners in July or August, and could signal further problems. He predicted borrowers would not see mortgage bills begin to fall for at least nine to 12 months.

His comments came as the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors reported that recent interest rate rises had effectively "put the brakes" on house price inflation. The slowdown in the labour market has also affected confidence, it stated.

Britain's biggest building society, the Nationwide, yesterday provided further evidence of a declining market when it reported prices rising more slowing than for a year.

It said property prices rose by 0.8 per cent in June, pushing the cost of an average £65,871 home up by 11.3 per cent compared with a year ago.

But a Nationwide spokesman pointed to wide regional variations. "There has been a significant slowdown in London and the South-east, but activity in the Midlands and North remains buoyant."

In an attempt to head off a new crisis, the Council for Mortgage Lenders and the Association of British Insurers have launched a study into why borrowers are not taking out insurance against rising repossessions.

Mr Coogan said that while lenders would take every action necessary to help borrowers in trouble, that assistance would be of "limited value" unless borrowers took steps to protect themselves.

The council is also concerned about the activities of so-called "non-status" lenders, which target vulnerable borrowers with a poor credit history. They impose extortionate charges and fines on borrowers who default.

Murdoch floats US media assets

Fox Group sell-off likely to raise £2.4bn to reduce debt burden

Mark Tran in New York

RUPERT Murdoch's News Corporation last night announced plans to sell to the public as much as 20 per cent of its US media assets, including Fox television, the 20th Century Fox film studio and more than 20 television stations.

The flotation of the newly-formed Fox Group, which will also include the Los Angeles Dodgers baseball team and the New York Knicks baseball team, is expected to raise at least $4 billion (£2.4 billion).

News Corp, which owns the Times and the Sun newspapers, said it would use the cash to reduce its debt burden as well as buy back shares.

News Corp said the public offering of a significant chunk of the Murdoch empire "will enable the investment community to better value the various entertainment assets and businesses which News Corporation owns."

Earlier this month Mr Murdoch sold TV Guide for $2 billion (£1.2 billion). The original purchase of the American listings company almost brought News Corporation to its knees, before a bank consortium bailed him out.

The flotation of Fox comes amid investor pressure to boost the share price of Mr Murdoch's media assets, which has been trading below rival groups. Analysts have long complained about the complex structure of the group, which includes its struggling publishing house HarperCollins.

"This puts the value on the US assets," Barry Hyman, an analyst at Ehrenkrantz King Nussbaum told Bloomberg. "Once people can see it, they're likely to give the stock a higher valuation. The one knock on the company was that you couldn't tell what was what. You are now going to be able to tell what it's worth."

Mr Murdoch's non-publishing assets have been growing faster than his print business and now account for more than half News Corp's $13 billion (£7.8 billion) in annual turnover.

The Fox Group will have three main business divisions: Fox Filmed Entertainment, which includes the 20th Century Fox movie studio and TV programming businesses; the Fox Television Group, which includes the No 4-ranked Fox network and TV stations; and cable networks, which includes News Corporation's 50 per cent stake in the Fox/Liberty Networks regional sports network, fX, the Fox Family Channel and the Fox News Channel. Fox television broadcasts such hit shows as The X-Files and Ally McBeal.

News Corporation said it expected to file a registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission within the next three months and to complete the offering by the end of the year.

While Mr Murdoch was recently blocked by the American government from breaking into the US satellite television market, his other US media interests have been performing well.

The success of the film Titanic, a co-production from 20th Century Fox and Viacom's Paramount Pictures, and the winning of distribution rights to three new Star Wars films have raised the studio's profile.

The Fox television network now ranks with NBC, CBS and ABC as a leading broadcaster with national reach.

Review

Perishing in an updated torment

Mic Moroney

Saint Joan
Abbey Theatre, Dublin

IT IS difficult to see any clear purpose behind Abbey director Patrick Mason's decision to re-set George Bernard Shaw's big political-historical drama during the first world war. Indeed, apart from costume, Mason plays very close to Shaw's uncertain depiction of Joan of Arc, the visionary peasant and virgin soldier who led France to victory at Orleans, crowned Charles VII at Reims and was burnt at the stake by the English for her troubles.

Shaw's sweeping narrative of 15th century Europe embroiled in the Hundred Years War is more concerned with the power blocks of church and feudal aristocracy, of armies, hapless princes and courtier-politicians.

As a potent symbol of national self-determination and individual conscience, Shaw's reading of Joan is as a foreshadowing of the reformation. In Mason's production, Jane Brennan puts across a sustained sincerity in the central part: at first a blankly iconic, military pantomime prince whose troubled zeal progressively wearies into doubt and fear.

There are many contradictions in the character, and this production is just as schizophrenic, ramping up the heroic sanctity, while just as quickly descending into flippancy and bathos.

Mason employs some fairly corny comic strokes to enliven Shaw's yawning debates, but the casting of Mark O'Regan as the Dauphin is hilariously effective; a crumpled, infantile creature, pootering nervously around the court, sucking his sugar stick.

More imposing is Ian Price as an icily polite, terribly English, Earl of Warwick. In fact, Warwick's murderous pursuit of "political expediency" provides the one point at which the costume leaps into focus.

Despite Shaw's modernity and proto-feminism (mind you, apart from Joan, all significant speaking parts are male), his political analysis now comes across as both dated and doting.

If Shaw is didactic, Mason can be even more so. In the programme, he makes a connection with Shaw's involvement in facilitating the Irish delegation which negotiated the Anglo-Irish Treaty of 1921, not long before he wrote Saint Joan.

And in the big discursive scene, in which Bishop Cauchon betrays Joan into Warwick's hands, the pointed pronunciations of "*Protest*-antism" and "Nation-alism" have all the subtlety of a wooden spoon gently rapping out the message along your knuckles.

To be frank, this is difficult material to bring alive, unless you have got some real fire or conviction, and apart from the odd spark, it is largely missing here.

Interestingly, the last time the Abbey exhumed the play in 1972, with a legendary crop-headed Siobhán McKenna in the role, the emphasis was on romantic nationalism (McKenna had translated the play into Irish in 1952). However, there are more doubts in Mason's revival than certainities.

And, framed in a fairly typical Joe Vanek set, between two huge crumbling plaster monoliths, the entertainment values frequently sag.

Labour MPs told to carry on spinning for NHS anniversary

Lucy Ward
Political Correspondent

LABOUR MPs have been given a list of instructions on promoting Government health policy to mark the 50th anniversary of the NHS — including "saying 'Matron' in a Kenneth Williams-type voice 50 times".

The confidential briefing, issued by the party's leadership campaign team in the run-up to the anniversary celebrations next Sunday, also includes detailed guidance on rebutting criticisms of the Government's record on health, including accusations of broken promises over waiting lists.

The 14-point rundown of campaigning ideas designed to attract local media coverage will prove handy for some MPs, but has infuriated others, already irritated at previous advice on spinning the party message.

In April, a similar briefing aimed at publicity-hungry but imagination-starved MPs prompted claims that the party was using a Blue Peter-style approach to serve up media-friendly picture opportunities. MPs were invited to make cardboard props and recruit small children to help promote the party's local election campaign.

In the new suggestions, MPs are urged to organise a photo outside a local hospital with "a large syringe with the words 'Labour's £2 billion cash injection for the NHS' written on it". Those not in possession of a large syringe need not fear: a four-foot model is available from the party's regional press officers.

Alternatively, MPs are invited to incorporate a large version of the 50p coin commemorating the NHS anniversary — available from today from the Parliamentary Labour Party Resource Centre.

If a syringe or coin do not appeal, there are more frivolous suggestions. The invitation to imitate Kenneth Williams addressing Matron as Dr Prod in Carry On Doctor is followed by the note: "It'll make us laugh even if it doesn't amuse you!"

Whichever approach they choose, MPs are encouraged to be seen and heard in the vicinity of a local hospital due to receive some of £500 million extra allocated in last March's budget to tackle rising waiting lists.

Other ideas include finding an NHS worker who is celebrating their 50th birthday this year, and offering the media copies of the original 1948 NHS launch document ("more quirky nostalgia to help them do their jobs", the briefing advises).

Dissident backbenchers were yesterday mocking the document. One said: "Perhaps we should all donate a kidney to show we really value the NHS".

Some Labour MPs are increasingly uneasy at the pressure from the party leadership to ensure they are busy selling government policy in the constituencies rather than causing trouble at Westminster.

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Members of the Nation of Islam militant group gather outside before the arrival of the five suspects in the Lawrence inquiry, and the outbreak of violence which forced the hearing to be suspended

The unanswered questions

The evidence/ Suspects claim failing memory and lack of concern over accusations of racism and violent intentions in police surveillance video

David Pallister

JAMIE Acourt, the first of the five suspects to take the stand in the Stephen Lawrence inquiry, was left in no doubt about the hostile reception he was going to get as he strutted into the building in his sunglasses, dark suit and open-necked, blue-checked shirt. "Murderers," the protestors chanted outside — and, once he had taken the witness stand, a large section of the public gallery, including the Nation of Islam militants, raised their fists and turned their backs.

After he had taken the oath, Edmund Lawson QC, the inquiry counsel, told him he enjoyed immunity and asked him if he was prepared to assist the inquiry. "Yes," said Acourt with what would be typical of his monosyllabic responses.

Mr Lawson began with knives. Acourt, aged 22, admitted that when he was arrested for Stephen's murder on May 7 1993 weapons including a tiger lock knife and a Gurkha knife were found in a bedroom at his house.

Asked to whom they belonged he said: "It was not my bedroom. I'm not sure."

"What about a scabbard and sword found under cushions in the sitting room?" Mr Lawson asked.

"They was ornaments."

A revolver allegedly found at his home was a pellet gun, he told the inquiry. "That was mine," he said.

Mr Lawson asked him: "So the suggestion that you or your group carried knifes is untrue?"

"Yes," said Acourt.

"Did you ever carry a knife?" Mr Lawson asked.

"No," Acourt replied.

But he admitted, to laughter from the gallery, that on January 24 1993 he was arrested and found to have a lock knife on him.

Mr Lawson: "Were there any other occasions?"

Acourt: "No, not that I'm aware of."

Mr Lawson asked about police pictures taken of the Acourts' house a few days after the killing, in which Acourt was carrying a bin-liner out of his house at 8.16am.

It contained "dirty washing", Acourt said, and he was on his way to work as a delivery driver in Greenwich.

Mr Lawson repeatedly asked Acourt about a police surveillance video, filmed while Acourt was in prison, which showed his brother Neil and other men charged with Stephen's murder repeatedly using racist language.

Mr Lawson said the video was "peppered" with references to "niggers" and "Pakis". Acourt repeatedly said: "I can't remember. It was a long time ago." He denied ever using or hearing anyone use the words "nigger" or "Paki".

"Have you ever come across racists?"

"No, not that I know of."

"Have you seen any racist graffiti?"



Neil Acourt: 'You say things you don't mean'



David Norris: angry at being accused of killing

'Can't you remember that kind of racist comment?' 'I can't remember.' 'Shocked, are you?' 'I ain't shocked.'

"Yeah."

"Did it bother you?"

"No."

The inquiry chairman, Sir William Macpherson, eventually intervened, saying: "You said you are willing to help by speaking the truth. Having seen the surveillance video you must know that they showed the most terrible racism."

Acourt replied: "I can't speak on behalf of other people. I saw it a long time ago."

Michael Mansfield, for the Lawrence family, asked Acourt about another suspect, David Norris, talking on the video about shooting and skinning black people and then setting them alight.

Mr Mansfield said: "These are your views are they not?"

Acourt replied simply: "No."

Mr Mansfield put to Acourt words used by his brother Neil: "I reckon that every nigger should be chopped up, mate, and they should be left with nothing but fucking stumps."

"Are you saying," Mr Mansfield asked, "that you cannot remember the kind of racist comments made by your brother on that video?"

"I can't remember," Acourt replied.

"Shocked, are you?" Mr Mansfield asked.

"I ain't shocked. It ain't nothing to do with me."

After the disruptions of the morning, Sir William rejected applications from the men's lawyers for the rest of their evidence to be heard in private or over a video link. "Jamie Acourt feels extremely exposed in that witness box," said Charles Conway, Acourt's barrister.

In the restored calm of the chamber, Mr Mansfield resumed: "You like carrying weapons in public, don't you?"

Acourt: "No."

Mr Mansfield asked if on October 2 1991 Acourt was expelled from Kidbrooke School in south-east London.

Acourt replied: "You tell me."

Mr Mansfield said: "Have you forgotten that?"

Acourt said: "Yes I have."

Acourt eventually admitted he was expelled for possession of a monkey wrench.

Mr Mansfield asked him if on October 23 1991 he had been cautioned by police for carrying an offensive weapon in a public place.

Acourt: "You tell me."

Mr Mansfield asked him about an incident when he was arrested on Chislehurst High Street on May 30 1992 for carrying an offensive weapon.

Acourt admitted he had had a police-style truncheon. When asked where he got it, he said: "I can't remember."

Neil Acourt, aged 22, also took the witness stand, to murmurs of "murderers" from the public gallery.

Adopting a more fulsome and cocky style, he admitted carrying knives after Stephen's killing in April 1993. He said he took them for "self-protection" after being accused of the murder.

"I received loads and loads of life-threatening calls, so I thought to make sure I was safe, I would do that."

Asked by Mr Lawson when he took this knife with him, Neil Acourt replied: "If I was going to an area where there were more black people than whites, yes."

Neil Acourt admitted using the word "nigger" but denied he was a racist.

"Black people call each other niggers, so why does it matter if white people say that?" he said.

Neil Acourt insisted that the extreme racist and violent language he used in a police surveillance video had been prompted by the stress he had endured after being accused of Stephen's murder.

"It is just boredom and anger. It is not as if I'm going to do it, is it," he said. "I've been through a lot, and when you have been through a lot you say things you don't mean."

Asked about a stun gun which detectives found at his home, he said he never intended to use it and thought it was normal for teenage boys to collect such weapons.

In answer to questions from Mr Mansfield about the police surveillance video in which Neil Acourt is seen demonstrating how to stab someone and saying he would like to kill blacks, Acourt insisted his remarks were all intended as jokes.

"Is that your idea of humour?" Mr Mansfield asked.

"Yeah, if you want to put it that way," Acourt replied.

Separatist message wins UK converts

Nation of Islam/ The Million Man March in Washington gained Louis Farrakhan followers in Britain but his disciples here have split

Ruaridh Nicoll

AT THE poorer edges of London, the proud men in black suits, white shirts and red bow ties are making their presence felt. Standard bearers of the Nation of Islam can be found in the Goldhawk Road, Brixton, Stoke Newington and Tottenham selling their publications: The Final Call, a United States import, and the British version, The Sign of the Times.

As young black men and women walk past, they ask if they want to read the truth about how blacks are at the edge of destruction. "We need knowledge," they say.

Once converts agree to the organisation's discipline, they learn of the movement's demands. "A separate state or territory of their own, either on this continent [America] or elsewhere," is one. The prohibition of inter-racial marriage is another.

Two years ago Louis Farrakhan, the Chicago-based Nation of Islam leader who is banned from Britain, was joined in the Million Man March to Washington by one in 10 of black men across the US. The march made Mr Farrakhan the most powerful black leader in America.

With the success came more members, both in the US and Britain. At the Nation's London headquarters in the Goldhawk Road new recruits are renamed after the prophet Muhammad.

The prophet is not the founder of Islam but Elijah Muhammad, who founded the US group in the 1930s. Elijah was the right-hand man of Fard Muhammad, a seller of silks from Africa. While doing business he would talk of the pre-slavery religion of Africa and refer to the white race as "blue-eyed devils".

Elijah replaced Fard after the latter's disappearance, and founded the religion, making his lieutenant Malcolm X famous and winning such high-profile converts as Muhammad Ali.

What the Nation advocates can seem rewarding in US ghettos — and to a lesser extent here: complete self-reliance and discipline that allows for no smoking, drinking or gambling.

But it makes some, especially the Jewish community, nervous. Mr Farrakhan, a former calypso singer, claims to have been visited by aliens, believes the world is run by a masonic conspiracy and says Jews are out to get blacks. He once called Hitler a "great man".

The Nation began in Britain in 1986, when nine men saw Mr Farrakhan on television. They describe themselves as having been "Christians, lapsed Rastafarians, black activists, drug-pushers and ex-convicts".

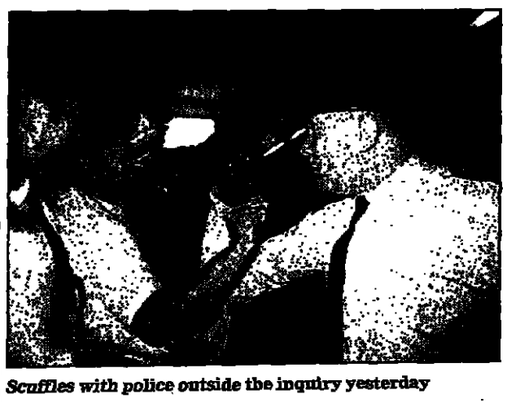
They went to the US to meet Mr Farrakhan and replace their "slave" names with an "X", and returned to set up a mosque in Brixton.

In the early 1990s the group split between two charismatic leaders, Leo, who was responsible for yesterday's action, and Wayne. Each now runs a separate mosque. Leo, a former stand-up comedian, is said to be able to drive his message home with a joke.

The Nation is secretive about the number of its members. Estimates suggest there are 100,000 in the US and 2,500 in Britain.

Mainstream Muslims reject Mr Farrakhan, mainly because he demands that converts swear allegiance to Elijah Muhammad.

Herman Ouseley, the chairman of the Commission for Racial Equality, said he found the emphasis on self-discipline encouraging but not the separatism. "It doesn't take people forward," he said. "I'm always concerned when people lock themselves into a culture of blame."



Scuffles with police outside the inquiry yesterday

'Separatism doesn't take people forward; they lock themselves into a culture of blame'

Lawrence inquiry turns into fiasco

Continued from page 1

Lawrence made his way down to the angry crowd, cordoned behind steel barriers in the shopping centre below.

Security staff were shaking as police sealed doors on the ground floor as a crowd of around 300 chanted outside.

One of the handful of non-white officers, an Asian, was put in front of the doorway, the most visible spot. It did little to calm the crowd.

Police reinforcements leaped off vans and sprinted into the shopping complex's main entrance.

Campaigners raced in after police.

A Metropolitan police press officer was attempting damage limitation. CS gas had been sprayed, but only by one officer. Chief Inspector Bob Kelly and another officer had been knocked to the ground and were being kicked, so their colleague had no other choice.

Lee Jasper, chairman of the National Black Peoples' Alliance, said: "There was obstruction, but it was peaceful. It [the CS spraying] was completely avoidable."

The Nation of Islam's spokesman, Leo Muhammad, said his members had left the inquiry room to calm the crowd and then were not allowed to return to the inquiry chamber.

Neville Lawrence told the crowd: "I asked the public to come here to support me. At the end of the day I'm going to be walking out of here with nothing. We have tried to be as dignified as possible, we have tried to listen. What's happened here, it's going to stop us getting that, and get us branded as hooligans."

Later, Sir William returned and rejected calls from the youths' lawyers to have the rest of their evidence in private or on a video link.

As the five suspects left the hearing last night Jamie Acourt shouted and spat at jeering demonstrators outside.

David Norris is to continue giving evidence today, followed by Luke Knight and Gary Dobson.

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Orange order's 'last stand' looms

John Mullin on mounting tension over Sunday's Drumcree march



A boy carrying tyres yesterday for a July 12 bonfire in a Protestant area of Portadown, Co Armagh PHOTOGRAPH: CRISPIN RODWELL

CUT David Jones, and his blood might just flow Orange. He was born into the order, literally.

For 42 years his father was caretaker at the Carleton Orange Hall in Portadown, the start and finish point for the annual march to the Church of Ascension at Drumcree on the outskirts of the Co Armagh town. It was in the apartment which went with the job that Rab Jones's son was born in 1952.

Mr Jones's father also delivered coal, and his patch included the Garvaghy Road. David recalls as a boy walking behind him as he marched on the Sunday before July 12 every year, with residents shouting greetings to him.

He says: "No one was much bothered then. People used to come out and watch us. There was no trouble. But Sinn Fein has got a hold of it now. It is orchestrating the opposition, and residents are intimidated into demonstrating against us."

However, nationalists say that parliamentary records prove there have been disputes over Orange marches in Portadown, the order's birthplace. Its members first marched to Drumcree in 1807.

The troubles, allied to a 1960s building programme, with council houses thrown up, led to a worsening atmosphere around the return leg of the six-mile parade.

After 1969, there were mass shifts of Protestants and Catholics in Portadown. Mixed areas became exclusive communities, and the estates on Garvaghy Road become almost 100 per cent Catholic. About 6,000 people live there now.

Nationalists gradually asserted their confidence. They became more willing to display their annoyance at the march, with all the trappings of Protestant supremacy, through their neighbourhoods.

There are more than 3,000 Orange parades in Northern Ireland every year, and only around 16 are contentious. The Parades Commission has so far ruled on 12. In all but one, it has decided to re-route.

Drumcree, one of the oldest marches of all, has assumed ridiculous significance. It is no less than the last stand for Orangemen, who feel their rights are being eroded.

They think the Good Friday agreement is the latest in a long line of sell-outs; that David Trimble, an Orangeman, helped draw it up makes him a traitor.

The republican murder last December of loyalist commander Billy Wright, a key figure in the 1996 stand-off; the bombing of Portadown in February; and the Loyalist Volunteer Force shooting dead in April of Adrian Lamph, 22, a Catholic from the Garvaghy Road, have heightened tensions. There seems no way out.

The recent battles began in 1985 when Protestants were finally re-routed away from Obins Street, a nationalist area on the outward leg. They have since accepted that, and take an alternative route.

Garvaghy Road, a nondescript arterial route, first rocketed to public attention in 1995. There was a two-day stand-off as nationalists for the first time staged a mass sit-down. The parade was finally allowed to proceed with the proviso there would never again be an Orange march through the area without residents' permission.

> 'Only around 16 of the 3,000 Orange parades are contentious . . . but Drumcree has assumed ridiculous significance'

The hand-in-hand jig outside the Carleton Hall of Ian Paisley and Mr Trimble, who three months later went on to become leader of the Ulster Unionists, infuriated nationalists.

But it was nothing compared to 1996. The RUC banned the march, and many of the 80,000 Orangemen in Northern Ireland rushed to the area. They camped around the Rev John Pickering's church and drew up plans to spray the ranks of armed police with slurry. There was fearsome violence.

They brought Northern Ireland to a halt, blocking main roads, and cutting off the international airport and the ferry port at Larne for a time. After five days, the police relented. It gave nationalists another reason for detesting the RUC.

Mo Mowlam, then the new Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, tried her best last year. She shuttled between sides in a vain effort to find a compromise. She failed to keep a promise to nationalists that she would tell them of the decision on the march, and that created a bitter legacy. It went ahead.

This year, the task fell to the Parades Commission, set up to rule on contentious marches. It is headed by trade union official Allstair Graham, and is supposed to make its own decisions. But its independence was thrown into doubt in April, and many believe it will never recover. Tony Blair begged it to abandon publication of its preliminary finding on Drumcree because of the damage it might do during the referendum campaign.

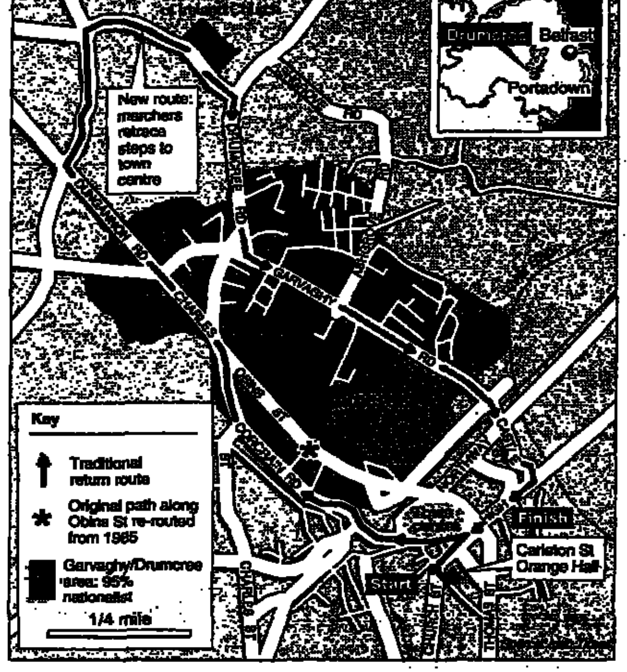
Mr Jones believes Portadown district has made massive concessions in the past four years. It only allows its own members down the Garvaghy Road; it has stopped all bands playing; and members march six abreast instead of two to get through the area quickly. It took them seven minutes last year.

He says that a small community of 100 Protestant families at the lower end of the Garvaghy Road suffer intimidation from Catholics throughout the year.

They also are annoyed that Breandan MacCionnaith, jailed for six years in 1982 over offences leading to the bombing of the British Legion Hall, speaks for the Garvaghy Road residents. They say they refuse to speak to terrorists.

Except, retorts Mr MacCionnaith, that several loyalist terrorists play a prominent role in the Orange Order in Portadown. He points out that during the 1996 Drumcree crisis loyalists killed taxi-driver Michael McGoldrick, 31, from nearby Lurgan.

"It is not the manner of the parade. It is the overall context, and Portadown is a bad place for nationalists," he adds.



Government will fund larger church schools

John Carvel
Education Editor

CHURCH schools are to escape the costs of building extra classrooms to deliver the Government's pledge to eliminate oversized classes for five to seven-year-olds, ministers said yesterday.

Under the normal rules, voluntary-aided church schools would have to meet 15 per cent of any capital costs of developing their property — a recognition of their autonomous status outside local authority control.

But ministers feared some might not be able to afford to invest the £100,000 needed for an extra classroom to deliver Labour's core manifesto pledge to limit infant classes to a maximum of 30.

Stephen Byers, the School Standards Minister, said the Government would pay the full cost of creating extra space in 100 church schools in the first wave of the programme, to be announced this week. There will also be 100 per cent funding for extra classrooms in 500 local authority and grant-maintained primaries.

> 'The pursuit of smaller classes will have damaging side effects'

David Willetts, the shadow education secretary, said smaller classes were desirable, but the Government's single-minded pursuit of that objective would have damaging side-effects. Many popular primaries would have to turn away pupils or reorganise the children into classes of more than one year-group.

"Mr Byers keeps on asserting his objectives, but he cannot explain how every class will be limited to 30 without a reduction in parental choice and more mixed-age classes," he said.

Church school governors should take care that extra funding from the Government did not draw them into "a bear hug from the centre" that might damage their distinctive character.

The Local Government Association warned last week that the Government would fail to deliver the class size pledge if it did not give popular schools the right to ignore parents' preferences and refuse admission to surplus pupils. It said ministers were promising the impossible by telling parents that they could have smaller classes for five to seven-year-olds as well as the right to demand a place in the school of their choice.

Mr Byers said 1,500 extra primary teachers would be recruited by September, benefiting 100,000 of the 484,000 children in oversized infant classes. The £40 million capital grants to be announced this week would build classrooms for a further expansion of the teaching force in September 1999. It would be targeted at popular schools delivering high standards.

Notice to Halifax borrowers.

The variable base rate for Halifax plc mortgage accounts (but not secured personal loan accounts) will be increased by 0.25% p.a. to 8.95% p.a.

The new interest rate will take effect on:

- 1st July 1998 for borrowers subject to immediate notice of increase in the interest rate.
- 1st August 1998 for borrowers subject to one month's notice of increase in the interest rate.
- The dates we specify for other borrowers.

Under the terms of Budget Plan the monthly payment will be amended from April 1999 or from the next review date for mortgage accounts on Annual Review.

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Romantic to the end



Catherine Cookson, who died earlier this month, with husband Tom who died on Sunday PHOTOGRAPH: TED DITCHBURN

Friends say Catherine Cookson's widower died of a broken heart

TOM Cookson, the widower of author Dame Catherine, has died less than three weeks after his wife, *writes Peter Hetherington.*

Mr Cookson died on Sunday, aged 88, after spending less than a week in hospital.

Dame Catherine died at her home in Jesmond, Newcastle, on June 11, aged 91, after a long illness. Tom Cookson always referred to her as Kitty. "With her by my side I believed there was nothing I could not do," he once said.

Friends said that Mr Cookson had lost the will to live. "He had been in hospital for a week and was heart broken at losing his wife," a friend said yesterday.

The couple met in 1937 when Catherine ran a boarding house in Hastings where Tom, a teacher, lodged. They were married when she was 33 and he was 27.

A statement issued on behalf of the Cookson family said: "Mr Cookson died peacefully in hospital on Sunday, June 28. There will be a public funeral, details of which will be announced later."

Barrie Scorer, mayor of South Tyneside, where Dame Catherine set her most famous books, said: "He won widespread admiration as a devoted husband. Throughout their long married life he gave unstinted support and encouragement. He was the man behind the woman."

Telephone monitor for heart palpitations

Helen Carter

A REVOLUTIONARY "telemedicine" centre which allows heart patients to be monitored via a phone link was launched yesterday with the potential to reduce NHS costs and cut waiting lists.

Patients using the Lifesign system hold the lightweight credit-card size machine to their chest for 30 seconds during a heart palpitation. They then dial a freephone number and the ECG reading from their heartbeat is transferred to cardiac technicians at a call centre in Cardiff. The data is converted into graph form which is faxed to the patient's doctor or consultant.

At present, 1,600 GPs have subscribed to the International Telemedicine Services' system which costs £65 per patient, per fortnight. Studies are taking place at three hospitals to see if it is viable for wider use within the NHS.

It was developed by the company's chairman, Ronnie Royston, after he was given a pacemaker three years ago in the US and was linked to a similar monitoring system. "Diagnosing and monitoring patients quickly and efficiently by telephone is going to save a great deal of money," he said.

The company's national sales manager, Adam Wragg, said: "At present, if the patient goes to their GP complaining of palpitations, they are attached to a 12-lead ECG machine in the surgery — but many patients don't have palpitations there and then.

"Patients are normally referred to cardiologists which costs £600 and it can take many weeks before they are seen. Of those, around 40 per cent are suffering from abnormal heart beats, which are often just caused by diet or stress."

Caryl Gibbs, of the Riverside health centre in Cardiff, who was one of the first GPs to sign up to the service, said: "People suffering with heart palpitations and odd heartbeats get really stressed by the thought of going into hospital for tests. We have only used it with six patients so far, but we are already finding that it is easy to use and bringing health services closer to people's homes."

The company is also developing a heart pacemaker monitoring service and a similar system for diabetes and asthma sufferers.

Foster links at 'root of murder'

Luke Harding

THE JURY at the Billie-Jo Jenkins murder trial was told yesterday that there was a "complex relationship" between her and her foster father.

In his closing speech to the jury at Lewes Crown Court, Richard Camden Pratt QC, prosecuting, said Sion Jenkins's motive for murder lay in that relationship.

Jenkins, aged 40, denies murdering Billie-Jo, aged 13, with an 18in metal tent spike as she painted the patio doors of the family home in Hastings, East Sussex, on February 15 last year. She died of multiple blows to the head.

"We have a complex relationship between a foster child — a teenager — and a foster father. It is complex," Mr Pratt told the court.

"I said when I opened this case that the motive of the defendant for killing Billie-Jo would probably go to the grave with her," he added. "But the roots of this case lie in that complex relationship. It is not a case where a motiveless crime makes sense."

He suggested that Jenkins, a deputy headmaster, may have lashed out after a frustrating day. He also told the jury that forensic scientists had found 158 invisible spots of blood on his clothing. The "impact spatter" could only have caused by him striking Billie-Jo repeatedly.

Anthony Scrivener QC, defending, told the jury: "This is a murder inquiry which has lost its way." The prosecution had come up with no motive and detectives had gone off on a tangent relying on flawed evidence.

Between 1993 and 1997 there had been 45 burglaries in the street where they lived, and the Jenkins family have been victims of crime four times, the jury was told. "You might be forgiven for thinking that the police focus was to look for someone with a psychiatric history or someone with a history of violence or at least someone who was a well-known burglar," Mr Scrivener added.

صكنا من الاهل

هكذا من الاصل

News in brief

Man who murdered grandchild gets life

A MAN was jailed for life yesterday for murdering his three-year-old granddaughter, who he hurled to her death from a seventh floor balcony following a drinking binge.

Judge Geoffrey Grigson told Anthony Volney: "Yours was an act so callous as to be almost beyond belief." Volney, from Kilburn, north-west London, had denied murdering Sasha Davies last August.

A neighbour initially thought that a bag of rubbish was falling to the ground, Dorian Lovell-Pank QC, prosecuting had told the Old Bailey.

Volney had been babysitting his granddaughter and returned to his flat after he was asked to leave a local club, where he had caused trouble. "He was variously described as drunk, staggering, and was generally thought not to be fit to be looking after a small child in that condition," Mr Lovell-Pank said.

Gripes against lawyers rise

COMPLAINTS against the legal profession are at an all-time high, with one in every three solicitors attracting a formal complaint in 1997. Complaints against barristers are also rising — to one against every 21 barristers last year, an increase of 25 per cent — although the public's contact with barristers is much more limited.

The figures come from the annual report of Ann Abraham, the legal services ombudsman, to be published today.

Ms Abraham said lawyers and their professional bodies still had "a long way to go" to deliver the three pre-requisites for being allowed to continue regulating themselves: speedy resolution of complaints, greater credibility in the eyes of complainants, and effective redress. — *Clare Dyer*

Transport plea rebuffed

TWO men who are allergic to daylight are not entitled to a government allowance to help them pay for transport, the Court of Appeal ruled yesterday. Both men had claimed they were eligible for the £35-a-week mobility allowance as they cannot walk outside because of their skin blisters and are left in "severe discomfort".

But the appeal judges decided that the social security rules stipulate that only those whose "severe discomfort" is caused by the physical act of walking can get the allowance.

Anthony Hewitt, aged 40, from Manchester, and Mark Diment, 32, from south London, can walk indoors but cannot move outside during the day because of their rare condition — porphria. The ruling will affect around 2,000 people.

Gay culture trailblazer

BRITAIN'S first professor of lesbian and gay studies was appointed yesterday by Nottingham Trent university. Greg Woods, 45-year-old author of a history of gay literature, said his promotion was a "slightly brave" decision to give recognition to a young academic discipline that was not yet universally respected. Mr Woods, a lecturer at Nottingham Trent since 1990, has taught courses on contemporary gay issues. — *John Carvel*

High prices mean boom town

A STUDY by a Swiss economic research company which claims London is the most expensive city in Western Europe was yesterday hailed not as a cause for concern but as proof of the capital's success. London Chamber of Commerce's director of policy, Andrew Hawkins, said the capital's economic success made it a more desirable place to live and work and so inevitably more

Judge praises the honesty of 'devoted' daughter who helped her distressed mother to end her life

Free after aiding suicide

Martin Walnwright

A WOMAN who helped her mother to commit suicide in the face of dementia was given 12 months probation yesterday by a judge who praised her honesty, courage and devotion.

Gillian Jennison, a university lecturer, made no attempt to hide the fact that she had given sleeping pills to her mother, Anna Wilkes, aged 83, at her request, and then smothered her with a pillow as she lay unconscious.

Jennison, aged 53, of Keighley, West Yorkshire, was originally charged with murder, which she denied, but she admitted the subsequent charge of aiding and abetting her mother's suicide. She walked free from Leeds crown court after the probation order.

She was told by Mrs Justice Smith that assisting suicide was a serious offence but that the circumstances were exceptional and showed plainly that she was a "caring and loving daughter".

The sentence was welcomed by the Voluntary Euthanasia Society as "sympathetic and constructive", joining some half-dozen cases a year in which people who assisted suicide at a family member's request have been treated with understanding by the courts.

A society spokeswoman, Libby Dicken, said the case also highlighted the need for legal reform, to allow people to make decisions for themselves at the end of their lives.

The court heard that Jennison, a lecturer in trade union studies at Bradford university, had been told a year ago by her mother that she wanted to die. Mrs Wilkes had begun to suffer from dementia two years earlier and had endured hospital treatment and periods in a rest home which she disliked.



Gillian Jennison . . . year's probation PHOTOGRAPH: PAUL BARKER

'What you did was in the honest belief that it was what your mother wanted — there was no hint of ulterior motive'

Mrs Justice Smith



Anna Wilkes . . . dementia sufferer PHOTOGRAPH: ROSS PARRY

James Goss QC, prosecuting, said that on July 18 last year, Mrs Wilkes had been taken to Jennison's home in a distressed state. She was "confused, said she felt dreadful and wished she was dead". She said she could not face going back to a nursing home.

Mother and daughter drank sherry together, then Mrs Wilkes asked for her sleeping pills, taking a heavy overdose after Jennison handed them over. Jennison also took a few of the pills, went out to drop the empty packet in a skip and returned to find her mother unconscious but still breathing.

The court heard that she then placed a pillow over Mrs Wilkes's head, holding it there for a few moments until breathing stopped.

Mr Goss said that Jennison later told police that "the state her mother was in made her feel that not to go along with her wishes would have been very cruel. She did not consider the consequences. She just wanted to help her mother."

Michael Harrison QC, defending, said Jennison, who immediately called a doctor and explained what she had done, had "no capacity to dissemble or deceive". He called the case "wholly exceptional, involving no ulterior motive on Mrs Jennison's part".

Mrs Justice Smith told Jennison: "It must not be thought that where a friend or member of the family takes this kind of step it will necessarily be treated in the way in which I intend to treat you. But what you did was done in the honest belief that it was what your mother wanted and that there was no hint of an ulterior motive behind your conduct."

Jennison, who has two children, was told her probation order would provide support after the trauma of the trial and originally facing a murder charge, which carries a mandatory life sentence. The judge said she had shown "considerable courage" in telling the doctor and police what she had done.

The sentence was criticised by opponents of voluntary euthanasia. Peggy Norris of the group Alert said: "Mrs Jennison's mother was clearly incapacitated and in no state to know her own mind. This is sending out the wrong message, a dreadful message. These are the patients who need total protection."

Wrinkly rockers top pop's cash mountain

Dan Glaister on chart plutocrats

PAUL McCartney's is bigger than anyone's, Robbie Williams has one of the smallest, and Tom Jones would have trouble squeezing his into his trousers.

The first survey of the richest rock stars in Britain and Ireland places the former Beatle top, with an estimated £500 million. Behind come a string of white male rock stars, most of whom started their careers in the 1960s and have spent the last three decades earning significantly more than they spend, despite some flamboyant lifestyles.

New acts are pushed down the chart by the financial acumen of their seniors, while the highest placed women are Enya and Dolores O'Riordan of the Cranberries, tied at 27.

The survey, compiled by Q magazine, shows that rock stars, whatever their generation, have a penchant for the good things in life. Cars, country mansions and aeroplanes all feature prominently on the shopping lists of the rich and famous.

But there are some eccentrics among the sensible savers. Elton John, at number three with some £150 million, is renowned for his extravagance. He once had 14 cars, and on winning a £1 million libel action went to a Savile Row tailor and bought the shop's contents. In 1996, he was the highest-earning British artist in a single year — with £40.7 million.

Former Genesis singer Phil Collins, with £105 million, is both a more modest spender and a "donorholic". His treats for life at home by Lake Geneva are imported HP sauce, piccalilli and Marmite.

Rolling Stones guitarist Keith Richards, at number six with a mere £100 million, once owned three Rolls-Royces, even though he could not drive. According to Q, his weekly bills as a tax exile in 1971 included £1,000 each on food and alcohol, and £2,500 each on drugs and rent.

McCartney far outstrips his nearest rivals, as well as the surviving ex-Beatles. His publishing company MPL, which owns the rights to Happy Birthday, is the biggest independent music publisher in the world, while he has also invested in his late wife's food ventures. Intriguingly, last year Linda McCartney earned more than her husband. "He displays both the insouciant self-indulgence of the mega-rich and a matching generosity," says Q magazine.

His generosity includes charitable donations, while his most curious luxury is Magritte's easel — a Christmas present from Linda — on which he paints.

Journalist Phil Sutcliffe, who co-compiled the list, said: "There were several we could not track down, including Boy George, Robert Palmer and Bryan Ferry. Either they are in Britain and are concealed behind other names or they are not directors of their companies, or they may have expatriated their accounts."

Several names on the list, notably fifth-placed David Bowie, have used the stock exchange to make loan issues, although contemporary artists are generally low on the list — largely because they have not been working as long as the rock dinosaurs.

Former Take That star Robbie Williams just makes the list with £0.8 million, while the Spice Girls are joint 53rd with £12 million each. "Williams managed to get through his first fortune and is now building his second based on his solo career," said Sutcliffe. "The Spice Girls' fortune has to be shared between management and writers, and they allegedly paid £10 million in severance to former manager Simon Fuller. But they are prodigious earners for new artists."

Rock's richest

1 Paul McCartney £500m	11 Ringo Starr £70m
2 Elton John £150m	=12 Charlie Watts £60m
3 Mick Jagger £125m	=12 Rod Stewart £60m
4 Phil Collins £105m	=12 Dave Gilmour £60m
5 David Bowie £100m	=15 Robert Plant £55m
6 Keith Richards £100m	=15 Mark Knopfler £55m
=7 U2 £90m each	=15 Jimmy Page £55m
=7 Sting £90m	=18 Brian May £50m
9 George Harrison £80m	=18 George Michael £50m
10 Eric Clapton £75m	=18 Tom Jones £50m



Robin Cook . . . 'we have to feel that we are British and European too' PHOTOGRAPH: DON McPHEE

Relaxed Cook has a feel for European agenda

As Britain's EU presidency ends, Martin Walker talks to the Foreign Secretary

AT THE end of the six-month marathon of the UK presidency, Robin Cook says that he feels distinctly more European, and that Europeans have finally accepted Britain as a full member of the team.

"There has been a 180 degree turn which has fundamentally altered our relations with Europe. It is good for us and good for Europe. And yes, I feel more comfortable, more confident in European circles."

"Eleven of the other European governments are with us in the Socialist International. And while it is not exclusive and does not work as a caucus, our informal discussions before the full-scale meetings do matter."

Yet by contrast, Mr Cook says that if he has learned one thing in his six months running the General Affairs Council, the EU's main co-ordinating body, it has been the importance of Britain's American relationship.

"It helped us resolve that nasty trade row over American sanctions (against EU companies trading with Cuba or Iran). And the fact that we are now fully engaged in Europe boosts Britain in Washington. And it helps that I have as good a relationship with the American Secretary of State as any foreign secretary has had in twenty years," he adds, with characteristic modesty.

"This is Britain's added value for Europe. We have that relationship, and we are on the United Nations security council and in the G8. So on Iraq or on the Middle East or Kosovo, we can use these different roles to try and get the institutions working together. I think that's why we have a united international position on Kosovo, by contrast with the years of disarray over Bosnia."

"I have learned just how pivotal this network of contacts can be, and not forgetting the Commonwealth, which has helped us get things moving with Nigeria."

Mr Cook, in a pensive but cheerful mood, sipped coffee in his shirtsleeves and brushed aside the three most controversial incidents in the UK presidency.

"Only in Britain and in Israel was my visit to Har Homa seen as anything but courageous and honourable. It was not contentious in Europe, where the other foreign ministers knew I was carrying out our common policy," Mr Cook insisted.

"That difficult weekend in Brussels when we launched the euro was not a dispute between countries, where the EU presidency can mediate. It was disputes within the French and the German delegations, where the presidency can hardly intervene. And taken as a whole, it all worked. The euro was launched and the markets were happy."

Mr Cook was less robust in explaining the widespread EU criticism of Britain's role in the Iraq crisis, where Dutch foreign minister Has van Mierlo publicly complained that the UK worked with Washington and failed to consult the EU. "Britain's view had the most support, 11 out of 15 nations sent contributions to the Gulf task force."

He ticks off his personal list of successes; a common EU position on China and human rights; a common position on engaging with Iran; on Kosovo and the Middle East; and on the reaction to the new nuclear status of India and Pakistan.

"There is inadequate recognition that we have gone a long way towards a common EU foreign policy, all the while maintaining our British insistence that these positions be reached by consensus." It comes down, Mr Cook says, to personal chemistry between foreign ministers, who have to settle the disputes which officials have found unbridgeable.

Mr Cook is respected by his EU peers as a brisk and fair chairman, who gave them all a memorable weekend in his home town of Edinburgh. But he could be facing one problem for which the foreign ministers trade union will never forgive him. It was on Mr Cook's watch that the scheme was first publicly floated by the commission to take away their real power.

Since the Treaty of Rome, the job of co-ordinating Brussels and member states, and preparing all the action agendas for EU summits, has been entrusted to the foreign ministers, meeting as the General Affairs Council.

Claiming that the ministers were too obsessed with foreign policy, the commission president Jacques Santer wants to replace them with a new high-power council of deputy prime ministers. Mr Cook's successor, Austrian foreign minister Wolfgang Schussel, has pledged to block the plan.

Secretary sacked for excessive mourning over death of Diana

Helen Carter

A SECRETARY who was so traumatised by the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, that she spent a week crying and writing poems in her memory, was sacked from her job at a football club as her grief became too embarrassing for her employers, an industrial tribunal heard yesterday.

Jeanne Cummings claims she was unfairly dismissed from Kingstonian Football Club after she complained that she had been sexually harassed by the club's financial director, Robert Wolfson.

But its director, Chris Kelly, told the tribunal in Croydon, south London, that she went "completely over the top" with grief after Diana's death last August.

"Everybody was sad, but it seemed to affect her rather more strongly," he said. "She was having conversations on the phone with friends about how tragic it was, and I found on her desk numerous little odes and ditties to the princess which had obviously been composed at work.

"It was embarrassing to have someone in that state. She was not capable of doing her job."

Miss Cummings, aged 38, from Barnes, south-west London, was dismissed from her £12,000 a year job last September, a week before the end of her two month probation. She claims Mr Wolfson asked her to accompany him for weekends in Paris and pestered her for sex.

She was sacked, she claims, when she complained about his behaviour. "I was walking down the corridor, and he came up and started asking me about my love life," she said. "I was beginning to feel physically sickened by his behaviour. Whenever he was in the office he would make me feel physically uncomfortable."

Mr Wolfson said: "I deny any overture of a sexual nature and find these allegations ludicrous . . . I am a happily married with two children, and I do not see how it would have been possible for me to take a trip to Paris."

He claimed that Miss Cummings was suffering from "mental disturbance or was motivated by financial gain".

The hearing continues.

What were these young Amish men doing distributing cocaine when their traditions ban even alcohol and tobacco?
The devil comes calling

G2 cover story

English blamed as police bill rises

Jon Henley and John Duncan in St Etienne

WORLD Cup organisers are praying for an England defeat tonight after it was revealed that most of its security budget is already spent.

The French government set aside £10 million for policing the entire tournament, with the tournament organisers contributing £4 million.

"It is impossible to say now by how much the original budget will be exceeded," a French interior ministry spokesman said. "But it is clear that it will be exceeded by a substantial sum. Since England's match in Marseille and Germany's in Lens, the security operation for these teams' matches alone has had to be doubled."

Policing England has cost the French taxpayer almost four times as much as other teams, with the cost of extra officers for England's matches in Marseille, Toulouse and Lens calculated at £1.07 million, according to interior ministry figures.

By contrast, the total cost of policing three other games at the same venues — France v South Africa, South Africa v Denmark and Spain v Bulgaria — was only £253,500, the ministry said.

The number of officers has to be doubled when England are playing and, instead of the standard one-and-a-half days on duty, officers are booked for three full days to police England's estimated 25,000 fans.

The calculations are made assuming that each officer costs £66 per day. England's match against Columbia last Friday required 1,200 police in Lens, where the game was played, and 1,000 in Lille, the nearest large town where many fans stayed. On top of that came an additional 500 plainclothes officers on duty in both towns, and a heavy police presence in Calais.

In St Etienne, where England play Argentina in a potentially high risk match tonight, the regional prefect, Jean-Yves Audouin, has boosted the police operation to 1,500 from 900 for all the town's previous matches.

Mr Audouin yesterday reiterated his stance that there would be no alcohol ban in the town. "We have had no problems here before, so why should we have any now?" he asked. "If England get to the final, are you suggesting that all the bars in Paris should be shut down?"

He did, however, say that he would review the policy.

France had mobilised one of its largest security operations since the second world war for the World Cup, with over 6,000 officers a day originally planned to be on duty on match days.

But the interior minister, Jean-Pierrre Chevènement, admitted yesterday that the scale of the challenge facing the French police had been gravely underestimated.

"We have had to deal with people who we were not familiar with," he said. "We have no experience of German and English hooligans. Everything had to go well inside the stadiums, and it has, but we have had to adapt ourselves to the fact that hooligans have let rip in the towns. That we did not expect, and that is new to us."

Tests hope for paralysis treatment

Tim Radford
Science Editor

ISRAELI scientists claim to have helped paralysed rats to move their legs in research which offers hope to paraplegic accident victims.

The news — published in the latest Nature Medicine — comes only days after US scientists announced that they had "grown" new kidneys in the bodies of laboratory rats.

Both teams of researchers claim success with techniques which depend on a new understanding of how the body copes with injury.

The Israeli team isolated cells from the rats' immune system and incubated them in a test tube which contained damaged nerve tissue — a process which "taught" the immune cells to recognise damaged nerves as a proper target. She then returned the stuff to the injured rats — and later watched them kick with legs that had been completely paralysed. Some were even able to stand.

The journal Kidney International reported last week that two scientists at the Washington University school of medicine in St Louis, Missouri, had found a new way to grow kidneys. Marc Hammerman took tiny developing kidneys the size of pencil points and placed them in the shelter of the kidneys of adult laboratory rats. They should have been rejected — but somehow the rats' immune systems were fooled and the foreign kidneys grew.

"We are not at the point where these kidneys could sustain life, but we're working on it," said Professor Hammerman.

Serbs fight to retake key mine

Jonathan Steele in Pristina and Ian Black in London

SERBIAN forces claimed last night to have recaptured part of a strategic coal mine vital to Kosovo's power supply from ethnic Albanian gunmen who seized it last week.

Serb sources said police used tear gas to take control of the management complex at the Belecevac mine, six miles west of the disputed province's capital, Pristina. Yugoslav army units were also involved in the operation to dislodge the Albanians.

The loss was not confirmed by ethnic Albanian sources who accused the Serbs of attacking Albanian-populated villages around the mine.

Reporters said a large force of police backed by armoured vehicles moved into the mining complex early yesterday and that detonations and gunfire could be heard during the day. At least three houses burned in the neighbouring village of Ade.

The Serb media centre said there were no casualties, but with signs of international confusion about how to handle the Kosovo crisis diplomats fear that if fighting intensifies it could bring a flare-up in the many regions of the province where the two sides are at a standoff over demands by the ethnic Albanians who dominate Kosovo for independence from Serbia.

Yesterday's operation started two hours after dawn when police with armoured personnel carriers sealed off the road to Belecevac. The Yugoslav army has a large base barely 300 yards from the management buildings.

The surprise was that the security forces had not acted against the lightly armed insurgents of the Kosovo Liberation Army several days earlier. The Albanians themselves were expecting a counter-attack after they brought the mine to a halt last Wednesday by kidnapping nine Serb mineworkers.

After this the rest of the 1,700-member workforce stayed at home.

Belecevac supplies coal for two power plants that provide electricity for the province of Kosovo and the rest of the national grid throughout Serbia.

Christopher Hill, the United States ambassador in Macedonia who deputises for Richard Holbrooke, the main American troubleshooter on Kosovo, renewed American efforts to broker a ceasefire yesterday. He was to meet President Slobodan Milosevic in Belgrade and then fly to Pristina to meet a Kosovo Albanian negotiating team.

Veton Surroi, a member of the Kosovo negotiating team, warned yesterday that the situation threatened to spiral out of control: "If this police and military attack at Belecevac continues it will create a military response by the KLA in other areas that could make it impossible to reach any kind of negotiated solution in Kosovo."

In Luxembourg, meanwhile, European Union foreign ministers appeared divided over US suggestions that the KLA — dismissed until recently as a terrorist organisation — should take part in peace talks with Belgrade.

Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, chairing the last ministerial meeting to be held during Britain's presidency of the EU, said talks must include "those who represent all shades of Kosovo opinion".

Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, said yesterday that Western countries must strengthen Kosovo's border with Macedonia and Albania. Mr Ashdown, who spent last week in Kosovo, said after meeting Mr Holbrooke that there must be action to prevent an upsurge in Albanian nationalism.

"We must make it clear to the Kosovars that absolute independence is not an option," he said. 'But given the gains of the KLA on the ground and the increasing radicalisation of the Kosovar population, we may not be able to stop Kosovo seizing its independence whether we like it or not. If we can act now to strengthen the borders, then Macedonia and Albania can help to stop this happening."

UN orders inquiry after war crimes suspect's suicide

Richard Norton-Taylor

UNITED Nations and Dutch authorities were last night conducting a security inquiry after a Serb accused of playing a key role in the massacre of 200 mainly Croatian hospital patients hanged himself while awaiting the verdict of the Yugoslav war crimes tribunal.

Slavko Dokmanovic, a former mayor of the eastern Croatian city of Vukovar, was found hanging from the door of his cell in the Hague by a UN security guard shortly after midnight yesterday.

The suicide is embarrassing for the international tribunal, especially since Dokmanovic had been placed under 24-hour surveillance last year after an unspecified "incident".

The tribunal has been criticised for delays and problems obtaining evidence — difficulties compounded by the reluctance on the part of the international community to apprehend war criminals living openly in the former Yugoslavia.

This summer, in what many observers regard as a belated move, two new courtrooms will be added to its present one.

Since the tribunal was set up in 1993, only two indictees have been sentenced. Of these, Drazen Erdemovic, a Bosnian Croat who served in the Serb army, has had his sentence halved to five years and Serb Dusan Tadic is awaiting the outcome of an appeal against his 20-year term.

In May, Louise Arbour, the chief prosecutor, announced she was dropping charges against 14 Bosnian Serbs, almost a fifth of those on the tribunal's wanted list of 74 that includes the former Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic and his military commander, Ratko Mladic. Three Bosnian Croats have been released due to lack of evidence.

"Dokmanovic was in a bad psychological state because he is innocent and could not endure being unjustly accused," his lawyer, Zoran Jovanovic, said in Belgrade. Christian Chartier, the tribunal's spokesman, said 24-hour monitoring was stopped at the request of the defence and on the advice of his psychiatrist who had been due to see him this week.

Dokmanovic was last seen alive by a guard at 11.30pm on Sunday. He had complained earlier of feeling unwell and was examined by a doctor who ordered that the light in his cell should be kept on throughout the night. He was checked every half hour.

"He was not described as far as I know, as a suicidal person... It was not a suicide watch," Mr Chartier said.

Dokmanovic's trial — which the prosecution described as evoking harrowing memories of the second world war — ended last week. The tribunal's verdict was due to be delivered on July 7. He faced possible life imprisonment if convicted.



Slavko Dokmanovic: hanged himself in cell in the Hague

Dokmanovic was arrested a year ago in the eastern Slavonia region of Croatia. He was accused, with three Yugoslav People's Army officers, of orchestrating the abduction and murder of the Vukovar hospital patients.

They were killed at a farm in the village of Ovcara outside Vukovar in November 1991. UN investigators said 260 patients were taken from the hospital by Serb forces. The bodies of 200 were dug up by war crimes investigators in Ovcara in 1996. The rest are missing.

Performers at the French park all want to take the part of Mickey. **Paul Webster** in Paris reports



Most of the marchers who play toy soldiers (above) in Disneyland's Main Street parade would prefer to be colonels than corporals, but Mickey Mouse (below) outranks them all

Toy soldiers' ranks thin as star-struck Disney dancers strike

TIRED of their anonymous daily grind in the shadow of the Magic Kingdom, dancers and marchers in Disneyland Paris's daily Main Street parade have begun a strike in the hope of winning a place among Mickey Mouse's elite.

"Unless we get promoted into more glamorous roles we will never get a proper reward for our acting," one of Sleeping Beauty's protesting handmaidens said yesterday, adding that she wanted to ride on the top of Sleeping Beauty's carriage like "a cherry on a cake".

The strike is one of the odder episodes of Disneyland's often troubled labour relations since a Socialist-led French government outbid other European countries for an undiluted chunk of American culture.

The agreement was finally signed 12 years ago by a supposedly anti-American Gaullist government headed by Jacques Chirac.

The agreement originally freed Disney playgrounds from French employment practices.

But, apart from odd rules banning moustaches and long hair on men, trade union activity since the complex of rides and hotels east of Paris opened seven years ago has brought working conditions largely into line with those of local competitors, such as the Asterix theme park north of the capital.

Unions, which once planted a mole in the park to work as a train driver and report any management abuses, claim the basis of the Main Street strike is wages and conditions.

But "cast members", as the staff are called, say a desire for stardom also plays a big part.

"It's understandable that if you are going to have to play a toy soldier it's better to be a colonel," one of the marchers said, refusing to give his name for "fear of a court martial".

The performer gave up his job in a department store to join Disneyland after visiting the original fun-fair in California.

"I thought I'd have a chance to do some acting but I just tag on behind the rest of the marchers while the guy playing Peter Pan flies over the top of us all on his magnificent float, waving to the crowds," he said. "For the rest of the day I'm told to keep an eye on the rides ... very boring because the public doesn't often respond to our permanent smiles."

> 'Some workers want to be Goofy or Cinderella but the union wants a complete salary review for everybody'

The highest rungs on the ladder are the Mickey and Minnie Mouse look-alikes, jobs often taken by senior staff because the heavy costumes are exhausting to wear.

Some of the same administrative staff, recruited in the spirit of US corporate loyalty, have been rushed in to take the place of striking cast members.

But regular visitors have noticed that fairies and pirates have been in shorter supply than usual during the past five days.

Raymond Debeaux, a garage mechanic from the nearby suburb of Marne la Vallée, said his family were on one of their monthly visits and had been struck by the thin ranks of the Main Street parade.

"I thought it was because of the World Cup," he said. His family of six, who expected to spend at least £200 on their day out, were in the front row when about 150 dancers and marchers paid homage to Uncle Walt's memory. The pageant's giant floats recall the Disney empire's cartoons and films.

But the 45-minute extravaganza was cut back to half an hour because parts of the regular show had been dropped.

According to the Socialist-led CFDT trade union, which is behind the first Disneyland unrest for three years, about half the full-time parade cast has stopped marching. Shop stewards say glamour is not the central issue.

"There may be some workers who believe they would be better off as Cinderella or Goofy but the union is fighting to obtain a complete salary review for everybody," Jacky Chou, the CFDT leader at Disneyland said.

He said basic wages for parade members ranged from about £700 to £850 a month. "The lowest paid have been offered an extra 300 francs [about £30] but we want a 7 per cent increase for all."

Trade unionists believe that the workers should be financially rewarded for the park's growing success. With more than 11 million visitors a year — the largest foreign contingent is British — profit forecasts are so healthy that the park's share price has jumped 77 per cent this year in London and Paris.

"There is still a tendency to exploit high unemployment among young people," Mr Chou said, recalling disputes in which foreign staff, including Britons, campaigned against excessive hours and poor accommodation.

The park's management, conscious of the potential impact of the strike on Disneyland's image, said the protest was not as popular as the union made out, and that the number of strikers was dwindling after assurances of more interesting work and promotion.

"We are discussing the diversification of responsibilities for the 150 parade members individually," a personnel officer said. "In the meantime, the show goes on."

Moscow mayor agrees to let stray dogs lie

James Meek in Moscow

MOSCOW'S mayor, Yuri Luzhkov, has changed his policy on the capital's stray dogs problem after crossing swords with Brigitte Bardot.

When the French film star and animal rights campaigner attacked the mayor for plotting the extermination of the city's 25,000 strays, his first reaction was to sue the paper which printed her comments. Now he has yielded.

In a characteristically extravagant operation, microchips will be implanted in stray bitches once they have been caught and spayed. The dogs will then be released. The dog-catching unit's snatch squads have been equipped with scanners to tell whether or not a stray dog has been treated.

"No Brigitte Bardot's going to call Moscow's mayor Luzhkov the dog-knacker any more," said Izvestiya newspaper. "The era of the extermination of strays is over."

The first dog to be sterilised, a petrol station lolterer nicknamed Zhuchka, was operated on and electronically tagged last week. She is due to be released after 10 days recuperating at the city vet's.

Sergei Bugayev, of the Moscow department of urban fauna, says the programme is expected to reduce the number of stray dogs by half in three or four years.

The old system of extermination following complaints cost more than £1 million a year, Mr Bugayev said, and had been a waste of time.

The mayor's attitude towards homeless dogs contrasts with his treatment of homeless people. As part of a purge of men and women sleeping rough in Moscow in the run-up to his latest attention-grabbing venture, the World Youth Games, Mr Luzhkov has ordered a mobile medical centre for the homeless run by Médecins sans Frontières to be hidden from public view.

"The order from the police said that because of the approaching games, our bus had to be put further away from the railway station, because guests are coming," said Antonina Cherneshova of the aid agency. "It's very hard to explain."

East Timor police open fire on crowd

John Aglionby in Jakarta

INDONESIAN intelligence agents shadowing a European Union troika of ambassadors around East Timor shot dead one man and injured four people when a crowd attacked their vehicle.

The agents, who had accompanied the diplomats from the East Timorese capital, Dili, to Baucau, were set upon outside the town's St Antonio Cathedral by 800 people who had gathered to welcome the diplomats, led by the British ambassador to Indonesia, Robin Christopher. Incensed by the six officers openly attempting to carry arms into the cathedral grounds, where the diplomats were meeting the bishop of Baucau, Basilio dos Nascimento, people jumped on the van and pelted it with stones.

"The man in the front passenger seat opened fire with a pistol into the air," one witness said. "This was followed by tear gas and bullets from the back of the car, where one person fired at point blank range into the crowd."

As the crowd took refuge behind walls and houses, the agents ran to a military post near by. Their van was then set upon and destroyed.

The dead man, Orlando Marcelinu da Costa, a farmer aged 35, was taken into the cathedral where Bishop Basilio gave him the last rites. A seriously injured man shot in the stomach was taken away in an ambulance. The three other injured, Diree Elizabeth Rosario, aged 15, Cesarino Jose da Costa, 19, and Jeronimo da Costa, 39, were taken into the cathedral for treatment.

Bishop Basilio told the crowd: "I am shocked and stunned. But we must get on with the process of peace."

Mr Christopher said: "I will let the United Nations know what I have seen in Dili and Baucau."

Yesterday's shooting was the second in three days in East Timor. Indonesia's governor of East Timor, Jose Soares, said last night he would "take strict measures against all those involved in anarchic activities".

In Jakarta, the Indonesian foreign minister, Ali Alatas, urged all sides to seek a peaceful solution to the territory's sovereignty. "It is better to find a peaceful solution that can be accepted by the majority of East Timorese as well as foreign countries and the United Nations." The UN still recognises Portugal as the administrative power. Mr Alatas ruled out a referendum on the territory's future.

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Leaders celebrate great leap forward

John Gittings in Beijing on the unprecedented new 'love-in' between China and the US

PRESIDENT Bill Clinton left Beijing for Shanghai last night as the implications of a dramatic leap forward in United States-China relations began to sink in.

The two days Mr Clinton spent in the Chinese capital turned into an unprecedented love-in between the White House and President Jiang Zemin's regime. Both sides now appear to attach supreme importance to developing their "partnership". And both presidents have conceded ground on human rights to consummate their new relationship.

What has tipped the balance, according to senior diplomatic sources in Beijing, is the combined effect of the Asian economic crisis and the new nuclear threat in south Asia. They believe that the "internationalist" tendency in the Chinese leadership, headed by Mr Jiang, has triumphed against the "regionalists" wary of Sino-US entente.

Both countries share a common interest in shoring up the economic stability of Asia and the world. They claim special responsibility as nuclear powers to act together to deter proliferation.

Yesterday morning Mr Clinton gave another speech in which he set out US views on human rights. On Saturday he spoke forthrightly about the 1989 Beijing massacre in a statement Mr Jiang authorised to be broadcast on Chinese television.

Yesterday's speech by Mr Clinton at Beijing University, home of many past student protests, was much more restrained. US officials said they had decided not to take advantage of Mr Jiang's goodwill by making further explicit reference to 1989. "We've made the point," they explained, "so there's no need to rub it in."

White House briefing material before the speech had sought to present it as a fearless statement on human rights. But Mr Clinton set his insistence that human rights were indivisible in a generally acceptable context, saying the US had no wish to "impose its vision" on China.

Diplomatic observers believe that a strong anti-US faction can no longer be identified in the Chinese political leadership, but say there are still some doubts in the armed forces. Strategists in some military academies take a dark view of Japan, which can easily spill over into hostility towards the US. There has even been a suggestion that the US incited the Indian nuclear test to intimidate China's traditional ally, Pakistan.

There are minor currents against the dominant view that China can maximise its international strength through a fruitful partnership with the US. But this view still has to be worked out in greater detail.

Mr Clinton's Beijing University speech was also broadcast live, although as on Saturday, Chinese viewers had no way of knowing beforehand that it would be transmitted.

Questions from students in the audience also displayed a sharply critical edge. Mr Clinton was asked whether he had a hidden design to "contain China", and why Americans did not understand the Chinese. Another questioner professed "great indignation" over the renewal of the US-Japan Security Treaty. The only question about human rights suggested the US also had problems in that area.

Places in the university hall were said to have been allocated to the students by ballot, although an unofficial report claimed the participants had been handpicked in advance.

Afterwards, Mr Clinton encountered what may have been a more genuine response outside on the campus. Students climbed trees to see him and waved excitedly as he presented a library of 500 American books to the university. The titles ranged from the Encyclopedia Americana to Total Baseball.

The regime continues to make the most of its concession to allow Saturday's presidential debate to be transmitted live. The official Communist Party newspaper, People's Daily, published a round-up of foreign press comment praising the debate for its frankness. The excerpts chosen ranged from the New York Times to the Serbian newspaper Politika.

But People's Daily has not yet reported a single word of the two presidents' discussion about human rights. Sceptical observers suggest Mr Jiang has found a way of winning all round.

The focus of Mr Clinton's visit will now shift in Shanghai to economic and cultural aspects of US-China relations. On Thursday he will proceed to Hong Kong, with a stopover in Guilin to see the rounded limestone hills visited by a million tourists a year.

Feeling good about ourselves

National pride: How each country rates itself in relation to the following

Political influence	Armed forces	Sports*	Arts/literature*	Fair and equal society
1 United States	1 United States	1 Ireland	1 Ireland	1 Ireland
2 Canada	2 Britain	2 New Zealand	2 Italy	2 Netherlands
3 Ireland	3 Ireland	3 Bulgaria	3 New Zealand	3 Austria
4 Norway	4 New Zealand	4 Slovenia	4 Canada	4 United States
5 New Zealand	5 Canada	5 Norway	5 United States	5 Spain
6 Austria	6 Bulgaria	6 Austria	6 Japan	6 Japan
7 Germany (eastern)	7 Slovenia	7 United States	7 Hungary	7 Bulgaria
8 Germany (western)	8 Spain	8 Hungary	8 Spain	8 Britain
9 Britain	9 Poland	9 Italy	9 Czech Republic	9 New Zealand
10 Czech Republic	10 Philippines	10 Spain Britain 15th	10 Latvia Britain 15th	10 Philippines

Overall

1 Ireland
2 United States
3 Canada
4 Austria
5 New Zealand
6 Norway
7 Italy
8 Netherlands
9 Japan
10 Spain

US researchers asked people in 22 countries what made them most proud. **Martin Kettle** reports on the findings

Patriot game rates nations for self-love

BRITAIN'S armed forces are its greatest source of national pride, an international survey of patriotism has found. But its sports achievements give the country the least cause to feel good about itself.

Researchers at the University of Chicago found that Britons ranked the military as their proudest achievement when asked to say which of 10 choices gave them the strongest national feelings. The finding is part of a 22-nation survey conducted by the university's national opinion research centre.

Other conclusions from the survey are that the Irish have the greatest level of national pride in their country's specific achievements, and that Austrians head the list for more general feelings of patriotism. When the specific and general indexes are combined to give an overall average, however, the United States comes out top, with Austria second and Canada third. Ireland is fourth, Britain eleventh.

The Chicago study interviewed 28,000 people in the 22 countries, 17 of them European, plus the US, Canada, New Zealand, Japan and the Philippines.

Asked which of 10 areas of achievement gave them pride in their country, people in the US emerged first in four of the categories — political influence, economic achievements, science and technology and armed forces. Ireland also came top in four categories — taking particular pride in its sports, arts and literature, history, and being a fair and equal society. In the remaining categories, Canada was most proud of its democracy and Austria of its social security system.

Britain came second to the US in its pride in its armed forces and fourth behind Ireland, Bulgaria and the Czech Republic in pride in its history. But the land of Shakespeare came only 15th in its pride over artistic and literary achievement, and 18th in sporting pride (western Germans, however, came 22nd).

The least proud nation of all in the survey was Latvia, just below Russia. Former communist countries took nine out of the bottom 10 places in the survey, joined only by Italy. Italy's pride in its democracy rated below that of Bulgaria and the Philippines, and its pride in its political influence was seven places below that of Latvia.

Averaged across the 10 categories, Ireland came first, followed by the US and Canada, with Britain seventh.

When the researchers asked about general feelings of national pride — rather than measuring pride in particular achievements — Austria emerged as the most patriotic, followed by the US and Bulgaria. In this measure, Britain came 14th. When the researchers averaged the two scales, the US came first, Austria second and Canada third, with Britain 11th. Latvia and Slovakia tied for overall bottom place in the survey.

The Chicago study also posed a series of nationalistic and patriotic statements. Asked if they agreed they "would rather be a citizen of my country than any other in the world", 90 per cent of Americans said yes, followed by 88 per cent in Japan, 87 per cent in the Philippines and 86 per cent in Hungary. Only 71 per cent of Britons agreed. The least enthusiastic nation was the Netherlands where only 48 per cent agreed.

The Dutch were also among the most likely to be ashamed of their nation. Asked about the statement, "There are some things about my country that make me ashamed of it," 44 per cent of Spaniards agreed, with Slovenia 43 per cent and the Netherlands 41 per cent. Only 10 per cent of Britons felt some shame about their country. The nations with least shame were Russia and Slovakia with 6 per cent and Sweden at 8 per cent.

Twenty-nine per cent of Britons thought the world would be a better place if the world were like the British, and 53 per cent thought that Britain was "generally speaking a better country than most other countries".

The Japanese were top of the league on the "better than others" question, with 83 per cent agreement. Next came the US at 80 per cent, Canada at 78 per cent and New Zealand at 77 per cent. Only 21 per cent in the Czech Republic and its former partner Slovakia thought their countries better than others.

James Meek reports from Vorkuta, where coalworkers are the victims of a virtual slave-labour racket

Outlook bleak as Arctic miners wait in vain for pay day

CLATTERING along a cratered tundra road in a company limo, Zhenya Shumeiko, head of the town's biggest miners' union, tried to explain why, with his members owed eight months' pay, he wasn't leading a revolt.

"We got tired of being the extremists," he said. "We got fed up with the continuous deceit of the other coal regions."

He laughed. He was on his way to persuade a mine boss to pay out benefits to stop the wife of a disabled miner throwing herself down a mine shaft. "The union's like a racket," he said. "Most of what we do is running around extorting money."

As President Boris Yeltsin clutches at the meagre economic gains of his seven-year rule, Vorkuta, a disintegrating industrial Arctic outpost hacked out of the brown moors by slave labour in Stalin's time, ought to be a centre of worker militancy.

Vorkuta miners are camped out in front of the government White House in Moscow to demand their wages. Recently they held the general director of the coal company, Viktor Ekhardt, prisoner in his own office.

But their protests hide more sinister truths. The miners demonstrate in Moscow because they are afraid to strike against their bosses at home. Union leaders work with the bosses to drip-feed miners just enough cash and food to prevent starvation or uncontrolled violence.

The hostage taking, Mr Shumeiko admits, was agreed with management in advance. "It was a purely formal action, to protect the mine from the consequences of a strike," said Mr Shumeiko, whose offices are in the building of the Vorkutaugol coal company.

Less separates the 180,000 inhabitants of Vorkuta from their slave labour predecessors than management would admit. Like slaves, they work without pay and, like convicts, they long for release in the form of a state resettlement grant. Around 16,000 families are on the waiting list to move south.

Yet the miners go on working. Management offers the minimum — a little money, or food.

"It's humiliating to have to beg for your own money," said Zhenya Zherdyetsky, aged 35, who was about to start a shift at the Severny mine. "You earned it and yet you have to drag it out of them."

> 'It's humiliating to beg for your own money. You earned it but you have to drag it out of them'

One form of payment is the *tormozok*, a packed lunch of bread, sausage, boiled eggs and half an onion. A miner can take as many *tomorzoks* as he likes to feed his family but 60p is deducted for each from the amount the company owes him.

Outside Severny mine, Ravin, a face worker, pulled out his payslip, which showed the company owed him £2,800 for eight months work. That day the mine offered bread and milk tokens.

"I could take all the money they owe me in tokens. But I don't want that, I want to go into a proper shop and choose decent things to buy," he said.

The workers are bitter towards the company bosses who get their large salaries on time and prosper at their expense. A new grocer's opened recently in the settlement around Severny. The owner is related to the local leader of a coal union. In Vorkuta, a nightclub and a new chain of shops are owned by the son of the previous company boss.

Last year the miners, working in rat-infested tunnels with ancient equipment and suffering an average death toll of more than one a week, hewed out almost 10 million tonnes of coal worth more than 10 times the company's debt to the miners. Yet the debt has not been paid off, fuelling suspicion that Vorkutaugol bosses are involved in under-the-counter deals.

"If there's any kind of leakage, it's kept to a minimum," Vyacheslav Davidov, the company spokesman, said.

So where's the money, ask the miners, pointing to the pressure they come under from local mine managers to work extra shifts. "The company lays out a production plan for each mine, but Sunday coal doesn't count," a miner said. "And they operate full shifts on Sunday. Where does this coal go? We haven't the faintest idea."

The government in Moscow is partly at fault. The state still owns 60 per cent of Vorkutaugol's seven mines, and is responsible for its bizarre structure, where the handful of local board members, including the town mayor, enjoy the advantages of private ownership without any of the accountability, while shifting blame for unpaid wages on to the Kremlin.

"More Coal To The Motherland" reads the rusting red slogan rimming the roof of the company headquarters. Another exhortation warns: "The Honour Of The Company Is Everyone's Business."

The greatest fear of Vorkuta's coal workers and their families is not that they will never be paid what they are owed, but that the last eight mines will close without government money being made available to evacuate them from a jobless wilderness.

It is a fear mine management plays on subtly, freely admitting that the company is technically bankrupt.

The only evacuation the government funded happened in 1996, when 4,500 people were shipped out of an uneconomical mining community north of Vorkuta called Khalmer-Yu. In the native Nenets language this means "Valley of Death".

The last inhabitants boarding the last train out at night left the settlement's central heating furnaces running. They looked back to see their abandoned homes burning.

Flats were purchased for them across Russia, but since then funds for resettlement have dried up. What Vorkuta dreads is the fate of outlying villages like Mulda. The authorities have declared it unviable and said its people should leave, but haven't offered money for new homes.

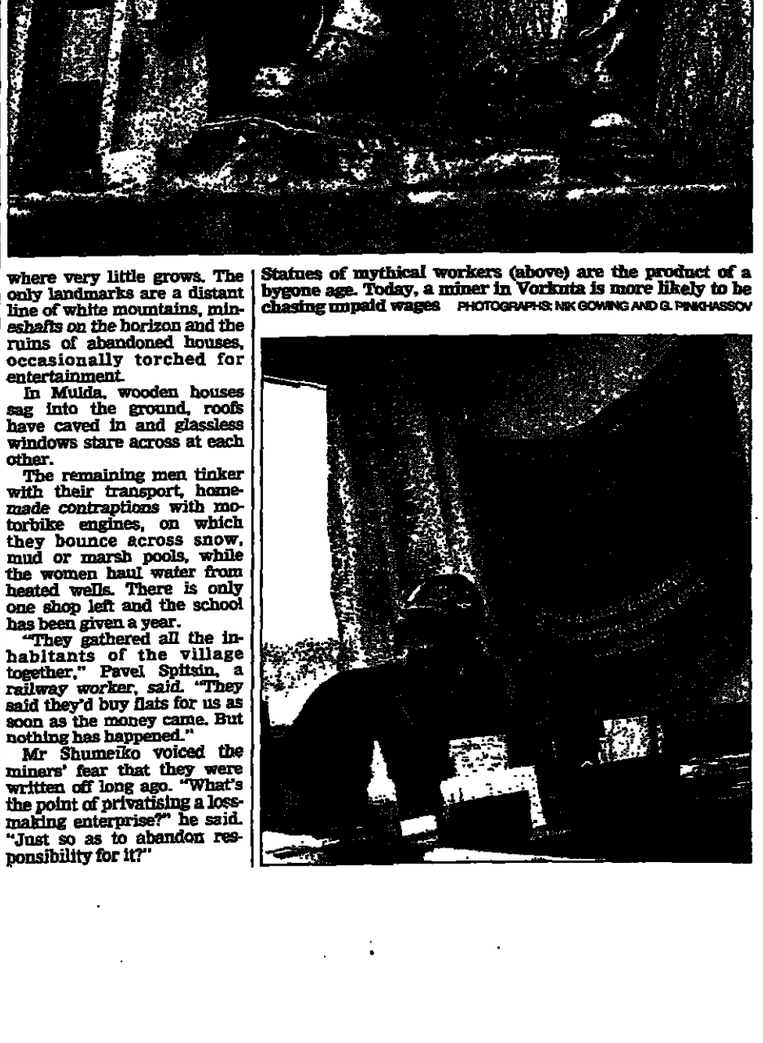
Mulda lies on the boggy Arctic plain outside Vorkuta, where very little grows. The only landmarks are a distant line of white mountains, mineshafts on the horizon and the ruins of abandoned houses, occasionally torched for entertainment.

In Mulda, wooden houses sag into the ground, roofs have caved in and glassless windows stare across at each other.

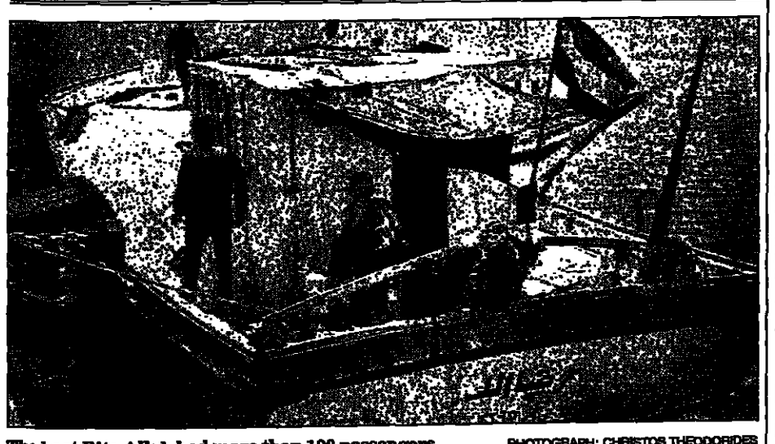
The remaining men tinker with their transport, homemade contraptions with motorbike engines, on which they bounce across snow, mud or marsh pools, while the women haul water from heated wells. There is only one shop left and the school has been given a year.

"They gathered all the inhabitants of the village together," Pavel Spitsin, a railway worker, said. "They said they'd buy flats for us as soon as the money came. But nothing has happened."

Mr Shumeiko voiced the miners' fear that they were written off long ago. "What's the point of privatising a loss-making enterprise?" he said. "Just so as to abandon responsibility for it?"



Statues of mythical workers (above) are the product of a bygone age. Today, a miner in Vorkuta is more likely to be chasing unpaid wages PHOTOGRAPHS: NIK GOWING AND G. PINKHASSOV



The boat Rita Allah had more than 100 passengers PHOTOGRAPH: CHRISTOS THEODORIDES

Migrants waited for death

Chris Drake in Limassol

THE PROMISE of a new life in Europe for more than 100 Arabs, Kurds and Africans turned into a hellish 12-day ordeal at sea in a dilapidated fishing boat, more than a week of which was spent drifting without food or a functioning engine and with only sea water to drink.

Two Africans died and their bodies were thrown from the Syrian boat, the Rita Allah. The others, including 10 children and five women — one of them heavily pregnant — huddled under blankets trying to avoid the burning Mediterranean sun.

All were convinced death was inevitable, but yesterday they were safely ashore in Cyprus after a passing Ukrainian cargo ship towed them to safety on Sunday. Some survivors were reported as saying several passengers had jumped into the sea to attract the attention of the Ukrainian vessel.

The Syrian captain of the refugee boat is under arrest in Cyprus charged with causing death by negligence.

The passengers had sailed from the northern Lebanese port of Tripoli in mid-June, each having paid around £300 to be taken to Italy. They were told that the journey would take two days.

"We didn't know it was a thousand miles away. We just believed what these people told us. But after three days, the engines broke down and then we ran out of food and water," said one of them, Suhail Anwar Saleb, aged 25.

"When the boat broke down, the waves were coming over us and we were scared of sinking. The two Africans died within half an hour of each other. One of them just went mad after constantly drinking sea water. The captain tied two bits of wood to their bodies and ordered us to throw them overboard," said Mr Saleb, an Iraqi Kurd.

"We saw several ships but had no way to attract their attention. We prayed and prayed and I know we could not have lasted very much longer."

His friend, Mohammed Ali Idriss, aged 30, paid around £3,000 to a businessman in northern Iraq to arrange the trip for him, his wife, Jihan, and their three children.

Fifteen of the passengers, including the pregnant woman, are being detained in hospital. The other passengers are in a Limassol hotel under police guard.

The Cypriot authorities believe the migrants were going to be put ashore on Cyprus and told they had reached the Italian coast.

According to one marine police officer, the boat was too small even for the 120-mile trip to Cyprus. "It couldn't carry enough fuel to go any further and its only navigation equipment was a broken compass. Anyway, it was in such bad condition that no sane person would even go fishing in it."

'Seeing The Other'

Comment

Diary



Matthew Norman

WHILE the Diary sends its prayers to our courageous lads in France as they prepare for tonight's encounter, it is my unpleasant duty to have a private word with left wing back Graeme Le Saux. The defending of Mr Le Saux, whose failure to challenge Dan Petrescu cost the goal which sent us into the immeasurably harder half of the draw, has been a disgrace. He has let himself down, his team down and his country down, but most of all, he has let his newspaper down. As the only Guardian reader in the England squad, we expect — nay, demand — better, and any failure tonight will mean instant transfer to the Independent. Speaking of which, you may recall the bet struck recently with Independent editor Simon Kelner, who backed Argentina to win the World Cup. All good patriots — and there are plenty, even among us chatterers — crave an England win, but Simon may be in two minds. Unless and until any debt-welshing might ensue, the terms of the bet will remain secret, but it will be a mark of the man if he is able to cheer for the England squad tonight.

MEANWHILE, news of an important sighting in Toulouse last week reaches us. A few hours after Mr Le Saux's fecklessness had ceded victory to Romania, a friend was leaving the Holiday Inn Crown Plaza when he heard gentle snoring. There, lolling elegantly on a sofa in the lobby, his mouth open in what is described as "the Venus Flytrap position", was Charlie Whelan. Please God Charlie stays awake until the early hours tomorrow, and is on more vibrant form.

I AM intrigued to read a close but nameless friend of William Hague quoted in the Sun about his sinus operation. Mr Hague was compelled to leapfrog many thousands of other sufferers to reach the top of the NHS waiting list, this friend claims, because "he was in unbelievable pain. The doctors said they couldn't take any risks, and got him into theatre straight away." Sinusitis can be a painful ailment, of course, but as the source of emergency surgery it might be considered an also ran. Indeed, not since Lord Andrew Lloyd-Webber's tropical amoeba caused him to pull out of an honorary degree ceremony have we encountered so perplexing a medical crisis. Any ear, nose and throat specialist willing to offer clarification is invited to call.

ALMOST remarkable rumour reaches the Diary. Mr Tony Blair, the story has it, has offered the vital post of head of the Downing Street think tank to none other than my friend Andrew Neil. The boulevardier (Eton, Balliol and Reagan-Thatcher University, Wisconsin) comes from a position on the free-market right a little extreme, you might have thought, even for Mr Tony. We call Andrew, and find him less chatty than usual. "Not true," he replies through teeth that sound a little gritted. So you've not even had any discussions about the think tank job? "Not true," he repeats, tersely. Very odd. We will look into this further, in the hope of discovering the full range covered by this "not true".

EXCITEMENT almost to the point of dementia hit Whitehall yesterday when Dr David Clark held a press conference to reveal a drive to make quangos more "open". As a key part of this modernisation, Dr Clark announced, the Government's target would be eventually to have equal numbers of women on them. This is most laudable. What a shame that Harriet Harman could not make the press conference, as billed. Nor could Joan Ruddock, minister for women. Still, I am sure they are taking this target very seriously indeed.



Furious and seething



Paul Foot

RAGE is all the rage. Gordon Brown is reported to be "livid" with the new barons of the water industry for pouring more gallons of money into their bulging pockets. Margaret Beckett is said to be "furious" as the directors of National Power openly defy her plans to re-distribute electricity generating plant and, very marginally, to subsidise the coal industry. Chris Smith is "outraged" at the unsurprising news that the monopolists of Camelot have decided, after due consideration, further to increase their gigantic salaries and bonuses. John Prescott continues to "seethe" at the private fortunes filched from the poor old railways.

These ministers are, so the theory goes, the most powerful people in the land. They lead an elected government which commands an enormous democratic mandate — a mandate which they are at last preparing to reinforce by ridding us of pestilential hereditary peers. Can anyone stand in their way? Can the directors of the newly-privatised utilities do anything but tremble at the ministers' terrible wrath and concede to it?

Here is the conundrum. The greater the ministerial anger, the more obvious is their impotence. When Chris Smith "summoned" the Camelot chieftains to "dress them down" about their largesse to themselves, they told him bluntly that if they couldn't hang on to their bonuses they would resign. Here was a glorious opportunity to rid the country forever of its greediest boardroom. But Smith shrank from it. The bonuses stayed in place.

BROWN suggests meekly, through his spin doctors, that he might introduce more powers for the water regulator to control the gluttony of the water barons — but their new pay rises are intact. So are the grotesque railway fortunes. What will Margaret Beckett do about the insubordination of National Power? *Is it not* her government's declared policy to co-operate with, not to confront big business? After establishing with such passion that the utilities must stay in private hands, are she and her colleagues likely even to contemplate the confiscation of a single asset which "belongs" (so she and her colleagues assure us) to National Power?

The real horror of the privatisation of vast tracts of British industry in the 1980s and early 1990s is emerging every day. It is not just that services to the customer are worse, though they are; nor even the mass sackings of experienced full-time workers and their replacement with temporary, incompetent and de-unionised casual labour; nor even the ridiculous salaries and bonuses with which the new directors (most of them former nationalised bureaucrats) stuff themselves.

The real horror is the transfer of power from enterprises which were, however remotely, publicly accountable, to corporate chieftains who have no conception of public accountability, and cannot see an inch beyond their share options. This is the power which prefers guzzling slender gas resources to preserving even the semblance of a coal industry; which can reduce an entire county to drought while doubling the water firm chairman's salary; which buys and sells railway assets as though they were raffle prizes; and which continually rips off the National Lottery. Once that power is ceded, there is nothing ministers can do about it except whine about how livid they are.

Reflecting on such matters, I go to the Picadilly theatre to see an excellent production of Bernard Shaw's Major Barbara. Andrew Undershaft is the arms manufacturer and newspaper proprietor of the day. He is Rupert Murdoch and Sir Colin Chandler rolled into one. He mocks his priggish son Stephen for contemplating a life in politics. "I will not," snorts Stephen, "hear the government of my country insulted." Undershaft replies:

"The government of your country! I am the government of your country. Do you suppose that you and half a dozen amateurs like you, sitting in a row in that foolish gabble shop, can govern Undershaft? No, my friend. You will do what pays us. You will make war when it suits us, and keep peace when it doesn't. You will find out that trade requires certain measures when we have decided on those measures. When I want anything to keep my dividends up, you will discover that my want is a national need.

"When other people want something to keep my dividends down, you will call out the police and military. And in return you shall have the support of my newspapers and the delight of imagining that you are a great statesman. Government of your country! Be off with you, my boy, and play with your caucuses and leading articles and historic parties and great leaders and questions and the rest of your toys. I am going back to my counting house to pay the piper and call the tune."

Major Barbara was written in 1905. Bernard Shaw was a Fabian, and leaned rather to the right wing of the newly-formed Labour Party.

> Once power is ceded, there is nothing ministers can do but whine

Freedom of Information beckons – but don't get too excited just yet

Hugo Young



THE Stephen Lawrence inquiry is an investigation into scandal at several different levels. It unearths horrendous failures by the Metropolitan Police. It exposes the racism still sometimes blithely tolerated in civil society. It surely can't avoid indicting the performance of the legal system. But underlying that is the broader question of accountability for the lethal combination of these failures, and especially the now-admitted errors of the police. The inquiry is only necessary, five years after Stephen's death, because that question proved absolutely resistant to any other approach.

For five years, the Lawrence family tried to find out what had happened, and for five years they were scorned or lied to. They couldn't get any of the basic information about the policing — numbers, timings, searches, interrogations — on which accountability depends. A senior man from the Met went to the inquiry to apologise, hard on the heels of Commissioner Condon himself, who described his force as being, in significant part, "corrupt, dishonest, unethical". Discovering the basis for that extraordinary confession, however, is difficult: just as it was impossible for the Lawrences to get anywhere near the bottom of their son's death. For information about policing is not free. It emerges at the discretion of policemen, which they take habitual pleasure in not exercising.

Simultaneous with the Lawrence inquiry, the Government is meditating a bill that once looked as though it would change all that. Freedom of Information was one of Labour's grandest pledges in Opposition. Tony Blair saw its absence as a key indictment of the of the Tory style and said he would end "obsessive and unnecessary secrecy". In the catalogue of constitutional reform, F of I, as it's known in the New Labour demotic, takes an automatic place. Yet the signs are that it is in danger of being fatally compromised.

The F of I white paper, now six months old, does outline a new regime of openness. It covers pretty well the whole public sector, local and national, elected or quangoid, giving a right of access to a large range of information. Though privatised utilities, which were once included, have now lobbied successfully to be kept out, it's fair to say that a new presumption in favour of openness is meant to be created across a swathe of hitherto secret public work, subject to exemptions which an Information commissioner will rule on: cases where disclosure would do, variously, "harm" or "substantial harm" to the national interest.

Quite different from exemption, however, is "exclusion". Law enforcement as a blanket category is to be excluded from F of I entirely. Not only the police but both social security and immigration enforcement matters will be out of reach. Not just police intelligence, or what's necessary to protect informants and assist detection, but anything whatever that bears on enforcement. Asked by a Commons select committee whether this included, for example, the facts about a failure to respond to a 999 call, or the numbers of police outside football grounds where something went wrong, Jack Straw adopted the tone of the patronising, if forensically challenged, authoritarian that Michael Howard made famous. There could be no right to know, he said. Even retrospective details imperilled law enforcement. Openly saying how many police had been at a football match could alert the enemy, and "be used by the criminals involved". Data about the past could never be "disentangled" from its future relevance. He declined to recognise the notion that causing "substantial harm" might ever be an appropriate test, short of which police information might have to be disclosed. Anyone who claimed otherwise merited, it seemed, the same scorn as those other crazy liberals who show "their obsessive desire to know whether or not they have been subject to security service surveillance". Here, in truth, were the enemies of the state.

IF this exclusion of law enforcement from F of I survives, three outcomes will follow. The first is a significant retreat, even, from what now happens. Under the Tory code of conduct that sets the present rules of the game, there is no statutory right to know, but equally there's no blanket exclusion of law enforcement by the immigration authorities or other departments. Information, it says, should be provided as long as "there is no risk that disclosure would prejudice... effective administration." Not a promise of torrential openness, but one which does acknowledge the possibility that some bits of information are more sensitive than others, and are amenable to a quasi-judicial test such as Straw is determined to exclude even where disclosure would do no harm whatever.

Secondly, the British regime now envisaged will be more protective of law enforcers than the law in any other country with F of I. Though Australia, New Zealand, the US and the rest protect exempted classes of information, ministerial discretion is not absolute. There is a procedure. "We cannot be led all the time by international examples," Straw says. Their law and culture are so different, he pleads. "You can end up by making false comparisons." Yet there is nothing either false or misleading about the simple fact that, in the US, every denial of information can be tested in the courts.

Third, let us assume that, with the exception of law enforcement, the British F of I Act might turn out to be a pretty good one: broad in scope, reasonable in its framing of exemptions, true to the purpose of putting the burden of proof on the withholder not the demander of information. How, then, will the police look, in their inglorious isolation, with special protection conferred on the state arm which has the worst propensity for prejudice and abuse of power?

What will that do for the relations between police and public that have been catastrophically damaged by the Lawrence case?

Their exclusion, and its defence by Mr Straw, reveal, however, something still more ominous: a defensive state of mind, which may, after barely a year in power, already have become half-seduced by the pleasures of secrecy and control. For a worse threat to the freedom of information now beckons. A battle rages in Whitehall which, if the wrong side wins, could destroy the concept altogether.

Thursday: The secret struggle

The Lawrence family want us – black or white – to support them at the inquiry

I had to be there

Dolly Dhingra



I WENT to a public meeting in a church in Stratford, east London, last Tuesday. Stephen Lawrence's father Neville was there.

So were other relatives of those who have died in unsolved racist murders — Joy Gardner and the mother of Ricky Reel, who spoke of their grief and frustration. They spoke for 15 minutes and many of the audience sat weeping as they listened to the anguish and heartache of those who had lost their loved ones.

Neville Lawrence himself, however, was very brief. He said he wanted our support. He wanted us to attend the inquiry on the day that he would have to face the suspected killers of his son. He needed us. So I went.

If only there had been as many seats available there as there had been World Cup tickets available to the English fans in France, perhaps then the police would not have had any excuse to administer CS gas to those who were angry at being unable to attend.

The inquiry should be more important to this country than the World Cup. That comes around every four years. Doreen and Neville Lawrence on the other hand, fought for five years to get to the day when they came face to face with Jamie Acourt, one of the suspected killers of their son. It is the most important legal battle that black people have witnessed in this country and it clearly isn't over yet.

ALTHOUGH the demonstrations outside the inquiry will make front-page news, the public inside the chambers listened with decorum and calm. Yes, there were many tuts and sighs of disbelief as well as the occasional expression of incredulity as Jamie Acourt told what seemed to be bare-faced lies. Given the extent of the shameless deceit that appeared to be displayed at the stand, black people at the inquiry should be commended for their composure. They certainly behaved better than English fans in France.

It was only when news arrived of CS gas being used on the protesters outside that things went pear-shaped. However, despite the anger, frustration and the humiliation that black people feel in response to the Lawrence case, it is important to keep the wishes of Neville and Doreen at the forefront of our minds. If the couple have managed to keep their calm for five years, then as supporters so should we.

The Lawrences want justice and for the killers to be imprisoned. Stephen was their son, and no one has suffered the way they have. That we are the same colour does not give us the right to hijack their grief and turn it into anger or violence.

The Stephen Lawrence case is a battle for justice, and it is important to show strength in unity and numbers. If employers are sympathetic to supporters of England who have taken time off to either watch the World Cup on TV or to go to France, then they should equally allow their black workers to attend the inquiry. If employers are unsympathetic, then take the time off, anyway! Who cares what you tell them?

This is a legal game too important to miss. And while we watch this game it is important not to lose sight of the ball. The ball in this game is justice. The police and the legal system have to be made to find the killers of Stephen. We all know who they are, and it would be the easiest thing in the world to resort to violence or to take the law into our own hands and to deal with them ourselves.

But that really is not the issue. The inquiry itself is dealing with racism, incompetence, collusion and corruption within the police. Although we are constantly told that three of the five suspected killers cannot be retried for Stephen's murder, two of them can. And all five can be sentenced to at least six months imprisonment for contempt or perjury.

But the biggest issue is still justice. Although it is easy to feel that there is no justice, just us, remind yourselves of the strength that Doreen and Neville have shown and let that be a lesson to us as we continue to fight. So switch off the World Cup, and do something more important instead. Get down and PEACEFULLY support the Lawrence family.

White people are also welcomed.



Dolly Dhingra was winner of the Commission for Racial Equality's media award for national newspaper journalists in 1995. She is now a playwright and film producer

صكذا من الاصل

The Guardian
Tuesday June 30 1998
Edition Number 47216
119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER
Tel No: 0171-278 2332
Fax No: 0171-837 4530
E-mail: letters@guardian.co.uk
Website: http://www.guardian.co.uk

'It was refreshing for me, a fat 44-year-old, to see older, fatter women on TV'
Sally Evans, Letters

Rituals and marches

Both sides must talk

"WE'RE all losers," is not a sentence too many public figures would utter. In these image-conscious times, it hardly counts as a soundbite to boost popular appeal. Yet these were the words chosen yesterday by Alistair Graham, the former trade unionist who has grappled with one of the hardest tasks in our national life. As the chairman of the Northern Ireland Parades Commission, he had to rule on which of the traditional Orange marches of the upcoming season could go ahead and which should be re-routed — away from the nationalist communities who see them as offensive and unwanted. Yesterday he delivered his verdict on the most incendiary march of all, declaring that the Orangemen should be barred from parading through the nationalist Garvaghy Road in Portadown on Sunday. This *march to Drumcree parish church* may have taken place every year since 1807, but in the last two years it has been the trigger of tension and violence. As Mr Graham noted, it has become "the touchstone, the litmus test, the line in the sand." He knew that no one would be entirely happy with *his decision: Unionists would complain* about the places that were kept off-limits, nationalists would complain about those that were not. Like the man said: in the politics of Ulster's marching season, everyone's a loser.

This morning, however, it is the Unionists *who are feeling the greatest anger — led by* the Orangemen who have rejected the Commission's plan. Freedom of assembly is a basic human liberty and few can blame them for loudly insisting on their right to exercise it. The several thousand parades of the current season — with their pipes, sashes, bowler hats and marching drums — may seem quaint, if not eccentric, to outsiders. But to the Protestant community of Northern Ireland they are a matter of religious freedom. Curbing that right is not a decision that can be taken lightly.

Nevertheless, the tragedy of Ulster's war is that the normal rules of peacetime do not always apply. Rights the rest of us take for granted have often lapsed in Northern Ireland, sacrificed for the more urgent demands of order and safety. Yesterday's enforced re-routing of Drumcree is only the latest example. If Ulster were not riven by conflict, then the abnormality of a non-elected commission allowing some marches but not others would not arise. But Ulster is a divided land, making decisions like Mr Graham's inevitable.

The Ulster Unionist leader, David Trimble, should have recognised as much yesterday. He should have accepted the ruling, while arguing that the entire point of a peace process is to build a country where a loss of freedom like a marching ban will no longer be necessary. He should have explained that the future Northern Ireland will not need outsiders like Mr Graham to solve its problems, but will use its new democratic institutions — like the Assembly it elected last week — to find solutions of its own. Instead, Mr Trimble was in his usual posture: looking over his shoulder at the rejectionists behind him, warning gloomily of the "potentially fatal impact on our hopes for peace."

Nationalist leaders showed flexibility yesterday, advising those residents on streets open to Orange marchers not to fight back — but to close their doors, plug their ears and wait till the parade passes by. Now it's up to the Orange Order to make the equivalent gesture, by accepting yesterday's ruling as the least bad solution available. Best of all, they could do what they have not done for three years running: sit down and talk to the nationalist residents whose streets they want to walk. After all, that's what the Good Friday agreement is all about — and the people have voted for that twice over.

Rout of the rand

South Africa needs investment

SOUTH AFRICA ill deserves the battering its currency has taken in recent days at the hands — and bottomless pockets — of the world's speculators. On Friday the rand fell by more than 5 per cent and yesterday it was once again under siege in a way that is in no way justified by the state of its courageous, if faltering, economy. Once the speculators realised on Friday that intervention to support the rand was being financed not by the US and Britain but from South Africa's own severely depleted foreign exchange reserves, then they piled in. The rand was in free fall, they believed, and selling it short (in order to buy it back later at a lower price) was a one-way ticket to instant enrichment. No matter how many learned tomes are written about the usefulness of speculation as an economic stabiliser, it sticks in the gullet to see international hot money profiting from the misfortunes of a country so in need of help as South Africa. Nobody *has* to speculate. Those choosing to profit from South Africa's transitional problems must live with their consciences, if indeed they have any.

South Africa's economy is not a basket case. The Government has done what was asked of it to conform to economic orthodoxies at the price of alienating trade union support. Government debt is low, the banking system (unlike Japan's) is sound, inflation has fallen and the trade deficit is modest. The economy has stubbornly refused to grow at the 5 to 6 per cent a year needed to make inroads into 30 to 40 per cent unemployment levels, but at least it is still expanding. Earlier in the year it might have been argued that the rand could fall further to boost exports and stimulate tourism but not any more. It has now fallen to a level unjustified by the economic fundamentals. South Africa can do without speculators profiteering when it is already being buffeted by the storms that have wreaked *havoc in Asia. What it needs is help to* remedy the appalling legacy of apartheid which deprived the majority of its population of education and opportunity taken for granted in industrialised countries. International investors, instead of pulling money out, should heed the appeal of President Mandela and put money back in as a serious investment for the future.

Tonight's game

Martial talk has its place

GLENN HODDLE says he did not use the word "revenge" about tonight's game with Argentina, but the thought hangs heavy in the air. Even if fans in St Etienne don't need linguistic cover to drink and fight, is this kind of talk acceptable? Von Clausewitz (played a blinder, once, for FC Potsdam) said war was a continuation of diplomacy by other means. Recently football rhetoric has seemed like the continuation of war by other means. Tabloids and commentary boxes are awash in a neo-Darwinian brew of challenge, aggression and survival. But isn't this what sport is about, the civilising of conflict by confining it to a field of play where rules of engagement are strictly observed? The World Cup makes the world safer for nationalism.

Some people fear linguistic slippage. Words used in one context fire bad behaviour in another; the ironies of the newspaper headlines become fists and broken glass in the streets. In playing Argentina, war is hardly a figure of speech. And yet it's striking how absent are references to that odd military conflict 16 years ago. What plays instead is a different folk memory, untouched by diplomatic nicety, economic relations or Lloyd-Webber tunes. There's that uncharacteristic outburst 32 years' ago by Sir Alf Ramsey, sadly ill, about the Argentinian team being animals. For the sixties generation and up, Antonio Ubaldo Rattin will live forever in infamy. For its children, Diego Maradona's magnificient piece of gamesmanship in the Mexico World Cup Finals in 1986 has lodged itself in collective memory too. (Connoisseurs of divine justice note that whoever it was that assisted him then did for him later.)

So, Glenn Hoddle says, we need to "get it out of our system". Glenn has evidently been reading the English football manager's little book of aphorisms since he goes on to say "we're stronger when we've got our backs to the wall a little bit". It's almost Wellingtonian. (History reminds us that while battling Boney in the Peninsula, the great — and Irish — general was also allowing the Argentinians to emancipate themselves from the Spanish). Yet England tonight has no need of history. Here's a game to which any team with pretensions to the top flight should be looking forward in peace and inner calm.

Letters to the Editor

A dry Cup and other fantasies

COULDN'T the organisers of the World Cup solve the problem of drunken violence by locating future tournaments permanently in Afghanistan? Temporary alcohol bans would not be necessary and the hooligans are likely to think twice about the possible loss of body parts before embarking on sprees of nationalistic over-exuberance.
Peter Bacon.
Doncaster.

COULD someone please tell Prince Charles that a T-shirt and trainers are the proper clothes for a football match, not a suit and tie? And full marks to Prince Harry for enduring the foibles of an ancient parent in order to see England beat Colombia. They must have been the only two people in the stadium wearing suits. So much for the Palace learning the lessons of Diana!
Marie Burnand.
High Wycombe,
Bucks.

HOW many times did Prince Harry have to press Redial before he got through to order his tickets? And whose credit card did he use?
Mark Redhead.
London.

DECCA Aitkenhead is getting awfully confused. She accuses Channel 4's The Sundays of trying to be serious *and* lively. This mix apparently leads to "meaningless cross-purpose". Is that what the Guardian calls it when you run a piece by Maggie O'Kane about Bosnia on one page and a piece of tosh about Emma Noble on the next? No, I didn't think so.
David Herman.
Series producer,
The Sundays, LWT.

YOUR preview of the film Yellowbeard mentioned that it did nothing to enhance the career of Marty Feldman and others. How right you were. Feldman, obviously fearing a savage slating by the critics 15 years later, died while the film was still on set. That should put the fear into other funnymen considering an appearance in second-rate British films.
David Pryke.
Alison Welch.
London.

RE THE use of the word "lumpen" describing the return of Christine Cagney and Mary Beth Lacey to BBC1 last Monday:
1) The lumpen proletariat are not the fat proletariat, rather the extreme end of the proletariat.
2) It was a refreshing change for me, a fat 44-year-old to see older, fatter women being useful, assertive, funny and, yes, even running on TV. More power to their elbow. Some literary advice to the Guide programme critic. Don't.
Sally Evans.
Liverpool.

ILLEGAL Viagra Sales (June 27) — Police Hunting Hardened Criminals?
P J Oberon.
Middlesbrough.

Why kidneys are priceless

A GROUP of prosperous doctors is advocating putting human kidneys in the market place (Medical challenge to kidney sale ban, June 26). What they should be seeking is the application of the European system of "opt out." All organs of deceased to be used where applicable, unless specifically refused.

My son waited almost six years for a kidney transplant. Only those suffering this illness can understand the pain and misery of this experience. He was offered a kidney for sale at £35,000 for each kidney.

Can this be the right way forward?
Alice Adolphe.
Blandford Forum,
Dorset.

I READ your article with horror. As a renal patient, it is traumatic enough to know that your donor has had to die, for you to become a recipient. Their gift was however given through choice, both theirs and their families.

Any person who decides to sell one of their kidneys does not do so through choice but through desperation. Selling organs is not an answer to the problems of poverty. The two doctors arguing against the ban seem to think that this is a purely economic matter. I must therefore presume that they have not heard of human rights. I know what it is to be dying on dialysis; I also know what it is to have a successful transplant. I would not have had that transplant if the person it had come from had not had total freedom of choice in giving it to me. Desperation born out of poverty is not freedom of choice.

The debate asked for by these doctors should not be on trade in human organs but on poverty.
Sophie Knight.
Nunney,
Somerset.

KIDNEYS are the only organs you could sell, and maybe eyes, because we have two of them too. No one would sell their own heart. But there are doubtless those who would sell someone else's heart — and may have done so already in places where a ban on organ sales is not strictly enforced.

Sometimes people donate a kidney to a relative, but how would they feel if they were paid? Would you like to buy your relative's kidney? And if not your relative's, then why a stranger's? The reason that some things are not for sale is not just out-of-date sentiment, it is because they are priceless, only to be given freely as gifts.

There are reasons why we feel "outrage and disgust" at the thought of a trade in human organs. Considering the issue with "scrupulous impartiality" would ensure that we consider what makes a society healthy. We might ponder the excellent unpaid blood donor system which we have (or had) here in Britain. What about unpaid kidney donation? If that seems for any reason an unattractive option, then its unattractiveness applies equally to the impoverished donor to whom it is proposed to offer "the choice of selling a kidney".

What kind of choice is being offered?

One of my children has had a kidney transplant, so I am familiar with the long waits involved. We are grateful for the National Health Service which makes transplants possible, and for the willingness of bereaved relatives to consider organ donation. How would we have felt if the kidney had been bought?
Jeanne Warren.
Oxford.

IN THE old days, the means test ruled out payment of National Assistance to anyone, no matter how destitute, who still possessed anything saleable.

In the brave new world that our academic medical and ethical experts advocate, a person's marketable kidney will have a cash value. Will anyone who still has two kidneys be denied Benefit?
Daniel Lowy.
Sutton,
Surrey.

Doctor doesn't know best about patients' rights

WE WELCOME the formation of primary care groups (PCGs) as outlined in the Government's White Paper, the New NHS (NHS reform concessions win over the doctors, June 26). They herald a new age of tackling inequalities in health and a greater understanding of patients' needs as a whole. However, we are shocked by the Government's recent capitulation to GPs. Why should primary care be run predominantly by doctors? Surely nurses, social workers and others have a major part to play in providing the care in the community?

We welcome the Government's investment in primary care, but we are very concerned that GPs, although not employed by the NHS and therefore not accountable to it, will hold a large proportion of the budget for their local area, both for their own services and for hospitals. Worse still, there appear to be no sanctions for PCGs who do not perform adequately or who mismanage their budgets.

The health authority will have little say in how the PCG is run and it will only have non-executive representation on its board. How will the health authorities' directors of public health or finance, for example, be able to influence or advise PCGs?

The King's Fund has always argued for greater patient involvement in health care decisions. But there is little sign of plans to involve patients in health care planning, in spite of a recommendation for one "lay" person on the PCG's board. We find it hard to believe that doctors can be the champions of patients' rights.

Is history repeating itself? Fifty years ago, Aneurin Bevan made major concessions to GPs, who had obstinately opposed the foundation of the NHS. We must not lose sight of the founding principles of the NHS: equality, social planning and co-operation.
Rabbi Julia Neuberger.
Chief executive,
The King's Fund,
London.

We do not publish letters where only an e-mail address is supplied; please include a full postal address. We may edit letters. The Country Diary is on Page 10

Mind the gap in mental health law

WE ARE carers for the autistic man (named in court as L) who was detained in hospital after he became upset during a visit to his day centre (Law lords rule against patient "sectioning", June 26). L is non-verbal and profoundly autistic and, because he was unable to speak, the doctors interpreted his signs of distress as indicating that he was in need of in-patient treatment. Under "informal" admission there are no safeguards to protect people like L from questionable and controversial decisions made by the doctors. We were not consulted or asked to help with the communication difficulties they said they had with him.

The doctors chose not to recognise his increasing deterioration during his detention as being a sign of dissent, and instead informed us that his stay would be a lengthy one and wrote terminating his placement at home.

Had it not been for Lord Woolf and his fellow judges at the Appeal Court, L would never have been allowed to return home. However, the rights afforded him under the Mental Health Act when the hospital "legalised their position" allowed him to achieve his discharge from the hospital back to his home with us where, in just a few days, he made the most remarkable recovery.

The ruling last Thursday by the Law Lords shows the inadequacies in current law and the way it discriminates against people like L. It is essential that continuous pressure is placed on the Department of Health to fulfil the commitment to reform that it gave to the court as soon as possible. Let us hope that this judgment will not be an excuse for them to delay action.
Mr and Mrs E.
Surrey.

YOUR report implies that the Law Lords found that L's admission to psychiatric hospital was in his best interests. In fact the finding was that the psychiatrist who admitted L was acting in what she believed to be his best interests. That is why Lord Steyn called this an indefensible gap in our mental health law — as long as a psychiatrist believes she is acting in the patient's best interests she will be entitled to admit a mentally incapacitated patient without need for a second opinion or consultation with the family.
Robert Robinson.
(Solicitor)
London.

Not cricket

I AM furious that, by opening Test cricket to bids from subscription broadcasters, the Government is sucking up to their favourite subscription broadcaster (TV cricket move no sop to Murdoch, June 26). Those of us who enjoy cricket but cannot, due to the cost, and will not, due to the principle involved, subscribe to Sky, feel betrayed. The Government seems more keen to suck up to Rupert Murdoch than to allow the masses to see a sport as central to our national culture as football on a broadcaster both free and imbued with some principles. I hope the BBC can find the cash to continue their extremely high-quality coverage.
Stephen O'Brien.
Hastings,
East Sussex.

The dog-racing industry is barking up the wrong tree

NATURALLY, Simon Marcantonio, PR advisor to the British Greyhound Racing Board, is keen to update the image of dog racing (Give the dogs a good name, June 27). If the industry is to survive, it must undergo the same transformation that has taken place in football over the last decade — once the domain of the working man on the terraces, now the current rage of the four-wheel-driving upwardly mobile. But it isn't only the image of the dog-racing punters that Mr Marcantonio and his employers should be worried about. A greater concern for the dogs on whose backs the industry is built might perhaps go some way to achieve their aims.

On average, between 25,000 and 30,000 pups are bred each year, most of these in Ireland, but only between 9,000 and 10,000 of these are registered to race annually. What happens to the other 15,000? The rescue centres and dedicated individuals around the country struggling to look after the thousands of greyhounds in their care are living proof that the problem is out of control. And these dogs are the lucky ones. Many more are destroyed, humanely or otherwise.

There needs to be a compulsory breeders' registration scheme. A rigorously enforced owner registration scheme with heavy fines and a "two strikes and you're out" rule to replace the current NGRC Rule 18 which calls on owners to make "acceptable arrangements" for their dogs in retirement, but which is rarely, if ever, enforced, together with a building programme to set up retirement kennels at each of the 35 licensed tracks would go a long way to change the public's perception of greyhound racing as a sleazy industry where cruelty is rife.
Annette Crosbie.
Charlotte Cornwell.
Greyhounds-UK,
London.

Philosophically, what's the difference between tosh and a load of bull?

I FAIL to see the point in publishing the letter from Antony Easthope (June 29) regarding Desmond Christy's interview with Alan Sokal (Books, June 27) when he does not appear to have read it. Had he got past the "load of tosh", he might have noted that Sokal and Jean Bricmont (in Impostures Intellectuelles) do not dismiss the work of Derrida et al out of hand, but merely criticise some of their ill-informed comments on science, which Alan Sokal characterises, quite fairly in my view, as "bullshit". But then, the letter only confirms that many of those who seem to worship post-modern philosophy uncritically simply do not understand the science which lies behind some of the utterances at issue here. While the direction of scientific endeavour may well be culturally determined, the results, if honestly presented, are not.
Alan Benfield.
Den Haag, Holland.

A GOOD dose of ribaldry never really harms any discipline. However, Alan Sokal's exercise in philosophical hoax has surely backfired. He has managed to show his ignorance of current philosophical trends and of the history and evolution of his own discipline in one cheap shot. Epistemic relativism does not set out to deny the existence of established "facts", rather it provides a stance from which to question them in relation to the culture which they serve. Without such philosophical critique, revolutions in science like those initiated by Copernicus and Einstein would not have been possible.
Alastair Lynn.
Cambridge.

ANTONY Easthope says he can't understand why the Guardian has set its face against modern French philosophy. I suggest that if Professor Easthope reads E P Thompson or Raymond Tallis or any of the dozens of left-wing thinkers who have devoted a great deal of energy to demonstrating, not just the bleak futility of a world stripped of humanistic values, but also the intellectual poverty of post-modernism's arguments, he may find the answer to his question.
Robin Headlam Wells.
Hull.

ANTONY Easthope opines that French philosophy shows us what it is like to live at the end of the 20th century "more intimately and completely than anything else on offer". Now that really is a load of old tosh. What has French philosophy to say about unemployment, poverty, child prostitution, drugs, the state of our justice system or our disappearing democracy? Rien. Its rigid jargon and cumbersome neologisms preclude knowing anything either "intimately" or "completely". The only way French theory connects with late 20th century life is in the philosophical support it gives to market economics.
Gary Day.
Bedford.

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Lord Rayner of Crowborough

St Michael's man

LORD RAYNER, who has died aged 72, transformed Marks & Spencer from a stagnating high-street clothing chain into a highly successful global retailer. Along the way he was also plucked from the business enviroment to work for two successive Tory leaders — Ted Heath and Margaret Thatcher. Despite their political emnity, both believed there was room to bring the efficiency of the private sector to government and the civil service bureaucracy.

The greatest achievement for Rayner, who like so many M&S employees began his commercial life in the stores, was changing the culture of what had previously been a family-dominated concern. He was the first Marks & Spencer chairman to be drawn from outside the charmed circle of the Sieff and Marks families and recognised that a long-range investment programme was needed to modernise the business and maximise the value of Britain's best known and most trusted retailing brand, St Michael.

He aggressively took M&S to the United States by taking over the upmarket, preppie chain Brooks Brothers in what was the first step in a global strategy which would eventually take the St Michael brand to continental Europe and the Far East, where it has been an enormous success. Ironically, the first expansion into North America proved the most troublesome for his successors.

It is to the credit of the Sieff family, which nutured Rayner's progress through the company — from 1953 when he joined to managing director in 1973 and finally chairman in 1994 — that they recognised his prodigious talents as a retailer. Other family controlled groups, like Sainsbury, which failed to make the transition from dynastic management to professional management, were left in the dust while companies like M&S and Tesco, which changed, have led the way for UK retailing.

In the case of Lord Rayner it was not just the recognition of global presence which made him different from his predecessor. He was among the pioneeers of the company's brilliant move into the high-quality food business, where it was essentially a trailblazer. He also recognised the need for better styling in the clothing ranges, took the first steps towards



Rayner . . . culture change

developing larger out-of-town stores, and moved M&S into the financial services business through its credit card. All of these innovations paved the way for his successor, Sir Richard Greenbury, to expand the group into the first UK retailer to make profits of more than £1 billion in a single year — to become, in fact, the most impressive retail chain in the world.

Derek Rayner was educated at City College, Norwich, from where he went to Selwyn College, Cambridge. In 1953 he joined M&S and was immediately dispatched to store duty, an essential element of the M&S school of executive training. His talent was quickly spotted and he was moved to head office in Baker Street, central London, where he became closely associated with the food business.

When Ted Heath was elected prime minister in 1970, he immediately called Derek Rayner to government service, planting him in the defence procurement section of the Ministry of Defence, where he became so indispensable that he was made chief executive. He received his knighthood in Heath's 1973 new year's honours list.

Despite Rayner's ties to the Heathite wing of the Tory Party, Mrs Thatcher showed no reluctance to bring him back into government as a special adviser when she won office in 1979 — giving him the task of bringing more efficiency to Whitehall. He resisted suggestions that he was only there to cut costs, arguing instead: "I'm really putting in a good word for civil servants and counselling politicians against embarking on major changes on the basis of theoretical advice from academics and consultants who are much better at running up fees than at running things."

Nevertheless, Rayner became one of the most feared men in Whitehall creating the famous "Rayner scrutinies" teams of inspectors, who went into government departments and decided on savings — producing some £275 million a year of extra income for the Government. Not all his initiatives were as clever as he might have hoped. The cuts he demanded from the Central Statistical Office, in what became known as the Rayner report, were later widely criticised because of the diminished quality of official statistics.

Rayner returned to Marks & Spencer in 1983 as chief executive, taking over as chairman from Lord Sieff a year later, having been created a life peer by Mrs Thatcher on leaving government. It was during his final stint at M&S from 1983-91 — when he retired — that he spearheaded the international expansion which is now the cornerstone of the company's strategy.

Lord Rayner, who never married, spent his leisure hours listening to music and enjoying the good food which he brought to the British public and travelling.

Alex Brummer

Derek George Rayner, businessman, born March 30, 1926; died June 26, 1998



Narayan . . . 'he will be remembered by friend and foe as a fearless advocate for justice'

Rudy Narayan

Frontline fighter

THE barrister and black civil rights activist Rudy Narayan, who has died aged 60, challenged the legal establishment at that time in the 1970s when it was not fashionable even to use the word "racism", let alone name judges, QCs, senior solicitors and politicians as being responsible for its promotion. Eventually, in 1994, he was disbarred for professional misconduct after a disciplinary tribunal — his fifth. "I have been expecting this for 25 years," he commented. At the time of his death, he was applying to be re-admitted.

At Bar annual general meetings he had sent lesser mortals scurrying for the safety of their all-white chambers with his acerbic wit and booming Guyanese voice. In 1985 he successfully forced the then Attorney-General, Sir Patrick Mayhew, to concede that the Race Relations Act 1976 omitted to cover the legal professions and agree to introduce fresh legislation.

At the height of Narayan's career there was no better criminal advocate at the English Bar, and many prosecution witnesses were seen to wilt under his cross-examination. He was also always at the frontline on race issues. Thus in 1995 he was again accused of making inflammatory remarks in Brixton prior to a disturbance. He had said that the police were responsible for killing black people, after yet another death of a black man in custody.

Narayan was born in what was then British Guiana, the ninth of 10 children of an Indian trading family. He left for Britain in 1952 with the ambition to enter a profession. After a succession of unskilled jobs he entered Lincoln's Inn at the age of 19. During national service he became an army sergeant based in Cyprus.

Returning to Lincoln's Inn in 1965 he became a vociferous leader of the students' union. Later struggling to get into chambers he ignored the advice of a senior lawyer to "pack it up and go home".

Entering legal practice at the time of the black power movement in the United States — and in London — Narayan developed his own brand of legal activism, establishing a reputation as a fearless advocate. He became a

> Narayan could set the courtroom alight with passion

household name throughout the African-Caribbean and Asian communities. He led the representation of black defendants in many celebrated civil rights trials, including the Thornton Heath 10, the Mangrove Nine and the Bradford 12.

In 1973 he founded the Society of Black Lawyers and brushed aside objections from the then chairman of the Bar, who regarded such an organisation as a form of apartheid. Through the society Narayan developed international links with progressive black lawyers in America and the Indian sub-continent.

But his outspokenness led to several charges of professional misconduct. In one in 1983 — he was cleared — he appeared before the Bar's disciplinary council, accused of vilifying the Attorney-General and the Director of Public Prosecutions by accusing them of being in an "unholy alliance with the National Front". Suspensions followed on other charges.

Despite his altercations with the legal establishment Narayan was held in high regard by many, but he never became a QC, a judge, or — as he wished — a member of parliament, not because of a lack of ability, but through his outspokenness. He had been a Labour councillor, and was once on the Labour Party's list of parliamentary candidates, but it was as an independent black candidate that he ran for Vauxhall in 1989.

In 1991 he announced his return to Guyana, but after three years returned to Britain and set up Civil Rights UK, a 24-hour free legal advice service in south London. In 1991 he was the guest speaker at the US National Association for the Advancement of Colored People's Legal Aid and Defense Fund 50th anniversary in New York.

Narayan could set the courtroom alight with a passion rarely heard today. His philosophy remains relevant. "It is much more important to eradicate racism from the top — that is, the political parties, the judiciary, the media," he observed. "Then the rest will follow." He was divorced and leaves two daughters, Sharmeen and Yasmeen.

Peter Herbert

Rudy Narayan, lawyer, born May 11, 1938; died June 28, 1998

Elisabeth Schooling

Dance to the music of time

ELISABETH Schooling, who has died aged 83, was one of the remarkably gifted and beautiful dancers to emerge from the studio of Marie Rambert and thus ensure the success first of the Ballet Club and then of the emergent Ballet Rambert.

Born in London, she studied with Rambert and joined her little company in 1930, appearing also in performances by the Camargo Society, which did so much to foster both the infant Rambert and Vic-Wells (now Royal) companies. One of her most famous roles was in the single ballet which Ninette de Valois created for Rambert, namely La Fille au Bar in *Bar aux Folies-Bergère*, 1934.

It was Rambert's husband, the playwright Ashley Dukes, who suggested that Manet's painting of that name might prove a suitable subject for a small-scale ballet and he was wont to chuck Elisabeth under the chin when he passed her in his Mercury Theatre and say "There goes Manet's Fille . . ." — for her delicate, blonde beauty did strongly resemble Manet's wistful girl.

De Valois, however, thought at the time that she was too inexperienced to create the role and gave it instead to Pearl Argyle. But when Argyle left the company, Schooling made the role her own, and the ballet remained in the Rambert repertory until 1953.

Schooling danced in ballets by all the choreographers who made Rambert famous — and who reflected Marie Rambert's uncanny eye for spotting and encouraging potential choreographic talent — namely Frederick Ashton, Antony Tudor, Walter Gore, Andrée Howard, and also Schooling's first husband, the South African, Frank Staff.

She danced in ballets by Mikhail Fokine, *Les Sylphides* and the Young Girl in *Le Spectre de la rose*; and learned Nijinsky's *L'Après-midi d'un faune* from Leon Woizikowski when he staged it for Rambert in 1931. Later she was to draw on her prodigious memory to revive this work for many companies, among them for Rudolf Nureyev at the Paris Opéra.

She had a wide range, from the fey and gentle to the delicious understated comedy of Staff's *Czernyana*, to the mordant comedy of Tudor's *Judgment of Paris*. In this, her portrait of the bedraggled, pathetic Venus, of the sordid night-club setting mixed grotesque humour with an underlying desperation as she manipulated the hoops which were the props of her seduction act.

With a few short absences, Schooling stayed with Rambert until 1948, taking part in the 1947-48 tour of Australia which was to prove for Ballet Rambert an outstanding artistic success although an financial disaster.

SCHOOLING withdrew from the stage after her marriage to Michael Chaplin in 1953 but when they moved to Devon she opened her own private school and taught there for a number of years. She was constantly in demand to help revive ballets from the old Rambert repertoire and in 1983 successfully restored for the company Ashton's delightful *Capriol Suite*, first made for the Marie Rambert Dancers as long ago as 1930.

She also had a rare gift for creating charming, simple ballets for very young children and made several such pieces for the Royal Ballet School.

Her friendships with her contemporaries from the 1930s continued until her death; with them she could share not only memories, laughter, wit and an ever-intelligent appraisal of present trends but also the quiet satisfaction of having been one of those present at the birth of British ballet as we know it today.

Mary Clarke

Elisabeth Schooling, dancer, born April 27, 1915; died June 22, 1998



Schooling . . . dazzling in Czernyana, the ballet written by her first husband Frank Staff

A Country Diary

TAMAR VALLEY: On midsummer evenings the north-western sun makes a Corot-like landscape of the old mines and scattered settlements below Hingston Down. Dark green crowns of trees are haloed in Silver Valley, around derelict mine-buildings in Coombe and Albaston and along hedges of small fields at Harrowbarrow, shadows extend over pasture and silken barley ears. Higher up Kit Hill, the gorse and heather-covered summit, with its dominating mine-stack, is silhouetted against the sky.

On Midsummer's Eve, after sunset, this prominent hill-top is the stage for the last in a chain of bonfires across Cornwall. A relic of prehistoric times, they were a celebration of high summer, the sun at its peak, promising ripeness and continued fruition of crops. The church renamed the festival the Eve of St John, but wreaths of symbolic herbs continued to be sacrificed to the flames and people still danced around the fires. The custom gradually died out and became confined to remote areas, where it survived until the end of the last century. It was revived in 1929 by the Old Cornwall Society and every year beacons are fired from Chapel Carn Brea, overlooking Land's End, to Kit Hill. There are prayers of benediction and bad herbs, tied with ribbons, tossed into the fire.

VIRGINIA SPIERS

Birthdays

Ian Hay Davison, accountant, former chairman, Storehouse, 67; **Peter Doggett**, editor, Record Collector, 41; **John Fraser**, former Labour MP, 64; **Keith Grant**, former director, Design Council, 64; **Tony Hatch**, songwriter and lyricist, 59; **Lena Horne**, singer, 81; **Cindy Jackson**, pop singer, 43; **Clyde Jeavons**, curator, National Film and Television Archive, 59; **David Lidington**, Conservative MP, 42; **Christopher Lloyd**, surveyor of the Queen's Pictures, 53; **James Loughran**, conductor, 67; **Gary Pallister**, footballer, 33; **Mike J K Smith**, cricketer and rugby player, 65; **Mike Tyson**, boxer, 32.

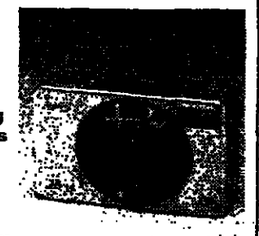
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Letters: **Benny Green**

Barbara Smoker writes: Your obituarist on Benny Green (*June 24*) concentrated on his jazz career, but this was only a fraction of his many achievements.

Having escaped the repression of a university education, like his hero Bernard Shaw, Benny became a polymath in an age of specialism. He educated himself, mainly in the public library, beginning with all the works of H G Wells.

I knew him primarily as a Shavian, a Wodehouse enthusiast and a secularist, and I recruited him as a vice-president of the Shaw Society and an honorary associate of the National Secular Society. He participated actively in both organisations.

Once, when a television researcher asked me to suggest someone to join me in opposing religion on a discussion programme, I said the best person would be Benny Green. Puzzled, she said "You don't mean the jazz critic?" I assured her I did, and he accepted the assignment, making some very hard-hitting points in his unfailingly good-humoured way.

Dennis Outwin writes: Your obituary of Benny Green omitted to mention his best book, *Shaw's Champions (1978)*, which described Bernard Shaw's fascination with prizefighting. This was an aspect of Shaw which his better-known biographers seem determined to overlook. Now that Shaw is becoming fashionable again, some enterprising publisher should reprint Benny's book, which is written with his usual wit and enthusiasm.

CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

THE INTERNET site that contains the UK electoral roll, page 21 of our supplement, The Editor, June 27, is at http://cameo.bvdep.com/ — the address does not, as we suggested, begin with a www. Apologies for the frustration.

THE "PROUD Edward" the Scots sing about sending homeward is not Edward I, as we implied in our report headed, Even King Bruce fails to give Scots heart, page 26, June 25. It is his son, Edward II, who was defeated at Bannockburn on June 24, 1314.

ALAN SOKAL, Books, Saturday section, page 8, June 27, will be speaking at the London School of Economics at 6pm on July 2 (not July 6 as printed). The venue is the Old Theatre, Houghton Street, London, WC2. No tickets required. The artwork that illustrated the article about him and his book was by Andrzej Klimowski.

AN ITEM in the Eco soundings column, page 5, Society, June 24, about the Blackwall Tunnel ventilation system and the Millennium Dome, originated in the latest issue of the fortnightly Environment Business News Briefing (0181 944 2930).

THE PICTURE of Burt Reynolds, page 15, Jobs & Money, June 27, was where it was intended to be despite the fact that the caption identified the subject as Burt Lancaster.

A PICTURE of the French Grand Prix on page 12, Sport, yesterday, showed Schumacher followed by Hakkinen and Coulthard, and not what we said it showed.

THE CORRECTION, page 15, yesterday, of a mistake in our short review of *In Cold Blood*, repeated another mistake in the same piece. The murdered family was called Clutter, not Cutter.

It is the policy of the Guardian to correct errors as soon as possible. Please quote date and page number. Readers may contact the office of the Readers' Editor by telephoning 0171 239 9589 between 11am and 5pm, Monday to Friday. Surface mail to Readers' Editor, The Guardian, 119, Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER. Fax: 0171 239 9897. E-mail: reader@guardiann.co.uk

Death Notices

BRAZIER. On 24 June 1998, H H (Harry) Brazier MBE, retired Principal Computer at Directorate of Overseas Surveys, Tolworth, Surrey died peacefully in hospital in Malvern aged 86. Much loved father of Fred and David. Funeral Service at St Michael's Church, Ledbury on Monday 6 July at 01.45 pm. Flowers or donations to Ledbury Trust, to Hollands Funeral Service, 71 Barnards Green Road, Malvern WR14 3LS.

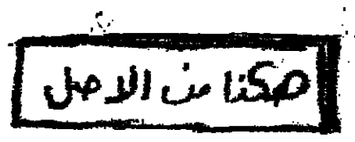
HEWITT. Douglas, University Extra-mural Tutor and literary critic, on 25th June, aged 78. Husband of Karen, father of Mark, Adrian, Vicky, Conrad, Lucy, Alex and Rory. Memorial ceremony at Rowley House, Wellington Square, Oxford at 2.30 on 18th July.

NEWMAN. On June 26th, Gina Newman (née Cashie), aged 51 years, peacefully in a North London Hospice. Beloved mother of Eve-Marie and Louis, and sister of Sean. Funeral service to take place on Friday July 3rd at St. Marylebone Crematorium at 3.00pm. Enquiries, flowers or donations to Eden Hall, Marie Curie Centre, c/o Leyerton and Sons 149 Kentish Town Road, Camden NW1 9PD, Tel: 0171 485 1268

Births

SALFE. Hugh John Salvador, born 27/6/98 in Chelmsford to Camilla (née Clanchy) and Kieran. A brother for Miranda.

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The Lawrence iniquity
8

Blair shapes a hard corps

Downing Street needs to be a powerful centre, not just to sort out quarrels between the overmighty barons of the Cabinet but to sort out Labour's priorities. **Michael White** and **Richard Norton-Taylor** analyse the problems

IT is not often that the arcane structures of Whitehall attract the *attention of a sitting* prime minister, let alone make newspaper front pages. The machinery of government is an acquired taste which few politicians acquire except when it suits their pressing purposes.

Tony Blair is no different from most of his predecessors in that respect. But reform of a vital cog at the hub of the Whitehall machine is high on his crowded agenda. Six months after asking his new Cabinet Secretary, Sir Richard Wilson, to find a way of "strengthening the centre" of *his government*, the Prime Minister is poised to act.

Add a dash of personality politics, the supposed prospect that Peter Mandelson is about to be made a ubiquitous "rival chancellor" to Gordon Brown, and the newspapers start paying attention, especially when a reshuffle looms.

What MPs and civil servants expect is that, by the time Sir Richard's report sees daylight, the institutional changes he proposes will have been tailored to fit the talents and ambitions of the Minister without Portfolio.

Whether or not Mr Mandelson inherits the ancient title of Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster now held by the likely fall guy, David Clark, or gets a moderniser's handle when he finally joins the cabinet, some time soon, it will be interpreted as a Blairite device to cut the *over-mighty* Treasury down to size. There will be a grain of truth in that too, though the Treasury denies reports of wanting an internal think tank or policy unit of its own. Downing Street backs that denial.

But what is really at stake is a more deep-seated problem than the simmering tensions between Mr Brown and Mr Mandelson, let alone the chancellor's restless habit of parking his tanks on his colleagues' lawns during the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR), now due in mid-July.

It is how the centre can effectively direct the centrifugal energies of semi-autonomous ministries to serve the larger interests of government — and the public. The problem pre-dates the "autocratic premiership" which has grown during the past 40 years of television-dominated politics. But the Blair style, both controlling and presidential, exacerbates it by the very expectations it creates. "Blair Steps In ..." is a familiar headline, from Ulster to education policy. The trouble is, always has been, that the *Prime Minister has pitifully* few resources at his direct disposal to throw at an issue.

Though Downing St was condemned last week for spending £1.5 million more on staff than the £3.4m the Tories spent — *creating a six-person* Strategic Communications Unit and adding four extra members to the seven-strong Policy Unit — it is tiny by the standards of the White House or the Elysée Palace.

ONLY a few people have yet seen the report by Sir Richard, sent to Mr Blair around Easter and still being redrafted. But a few phrases from it are already entering the vocabulary of smart officials including "outcomes" and "delivery mechanisms".

Mr Blair is famously not an ideologue, he is a problem solver. Outcomes (not "outputs", which is old speak) mean that New Labour's leader *wants to measure his ministers'* performance, not by the amount of public money they can win, but by the results they achieve, be it in GCSE results or NHS waiting lists.

The delivery mechanism in vogue is the Social Exclusion Unit, set up by Downing Street last autumn and staffed by half a dozen high-flyers plus *some outsiders. Its key char*acteristics are that it is intended to help a specific group — the poor, the unemployed and ill-educated — and that it is cross-departmental.

You can't a tackle a problem estate, the theory runs, without bringing in everyone from *Social Security to the Home* Office via Transport. No point in getting people trained and into work if they can't get there by bus. Hence "horizontality" and the need for the centre, ie Downing Street or the Cabinet Office, to progress-chase policies and politicians, *improve co-ordination* and co-operation across historic Whitehall boundaries.

That will require both changes in the machinery and people powerful enough to act as Mr Blair's enforcers. The *basic question facing* 55-year-old Sir Richard when he moved from the Home Office to the Cabinet Office on January 1, was whether or not to create a powerful Prime Minister's Office inside Number 10 itself.

But there is danger in such a centralising move, and he will have been powerfully advised against it, not least by Whitehall permanent secretaries who do not want to lose power to the centre. In the British system the prime minister is meant to be the honest broker.

The Cabinet Secretariat, housed in the adjoining Cabinet Office (and linked by a maze of corridors, some Tudor in origin), serves the whole cabinet. It is not intended to be a policy player. If Sir Richard had incorporated the secretariat into the Number 10 machine that would have aroused fresh charges of over-centralisation.

There has been plenty of that already. Civil servants were glad to welcome Labour last spring after 18 years of *increasingly lacklustre* Tory rule, but both sides have had trouble adjusting to the change. Ministers are impatient with the mandarin culture, officials dislike heavy presentational spin and the piling-up of white papers (defence, transport etc) awaiting clearance by Number 10.

SIR Richard's alternative option was to beef up the Cabinet Secretariat, but keep it *separate* from Downing Street. This minuscule group consists of bright (but officially neutral) officials seconded from other departments to service key policy areas — Europe, intelligence, defence, constitutional policy — and chair official committees.

It has been criticised for opting for the lowest common denominator, for lacking strategic vision. Give it a stronger role to secure effective delivery of policy — plus *strong political leadership* — and more resources, and it might deliver Blair's desired results in the executive manner of a private sector company. No more dithering over (say) the millennium bug problem where Dr Clark has lacked the power to enforce. *Action this day!*

Insiders, who have seen the Wilson Report, hint that the re-jigged Cabinet Office (which also contains the ragbag of civil service functions done by Dr Clark's Office of Public Service) may also include a new policy innovation unit "*located at the centre* of government, but not rooted in Downing Street."

It would try to achieve that hardest of government tasks: to look at long-term issues rather than be distracted by *the day-to-day pressures*. There are hints too of a revised, enhanced role for Sir Richard himself, possibly separating his functions as head of the home civil service from his job as Cabinet Secretary — serving that Thursday morning ritual when ministers pass through the the front door of Number 10.

The key change is likely to be much closer co-operation — to create more synergy — between Sir Richard's politically-neutral policy specialists *in the Cabinet Office* Secretariat and the Downing Street Policy Unit, the informal think tank set up by Mrs Thatcher. It is full of young and clever policy wonks (*all* political appointees), who work to David Miliband, Blairite son of Ralph, the distinguished Marxist academic.

"The great word will be 'horizontality'," predicts one well-informed source. "We want to strengthen the centre, to build up a more strategic capacity," says an even better one. There will be no "Prime Minister's Office" but it will *not be the only counter-weight* to Treasury power.

AROUND the *same time* as Wilson arrived, a thirty-something ("he looks about 12") Treasury high-flyer called Jeremy Heywood joined the Prime Minister's private office as the private secretary in charge of economic affairs. He got a better desk than *Moira Wallace*, from whom he took over, closer to Power.

The appointment makes him one of a handful of clever civil servants working for John Holmes, Mr Blair's principal private secretary. Mr Holmes got the job when Sir Richard's predecessor, Sir Robin Butler, told Mr Blair last May that he could not give such a sensitive politically-neutral post to Jonathan Powell, the *diplomat* brother of the Thatcherite Charles, who had joined the Blair team in opposition. So Mr Powell ended up with the White House title, Chief of Staff. *As such he is the gate*keeper, the man past whom anyone who wants to see Britain's young Prime Minister must get — be they cabinet ministers, captains of industry or Liam Gallagher.

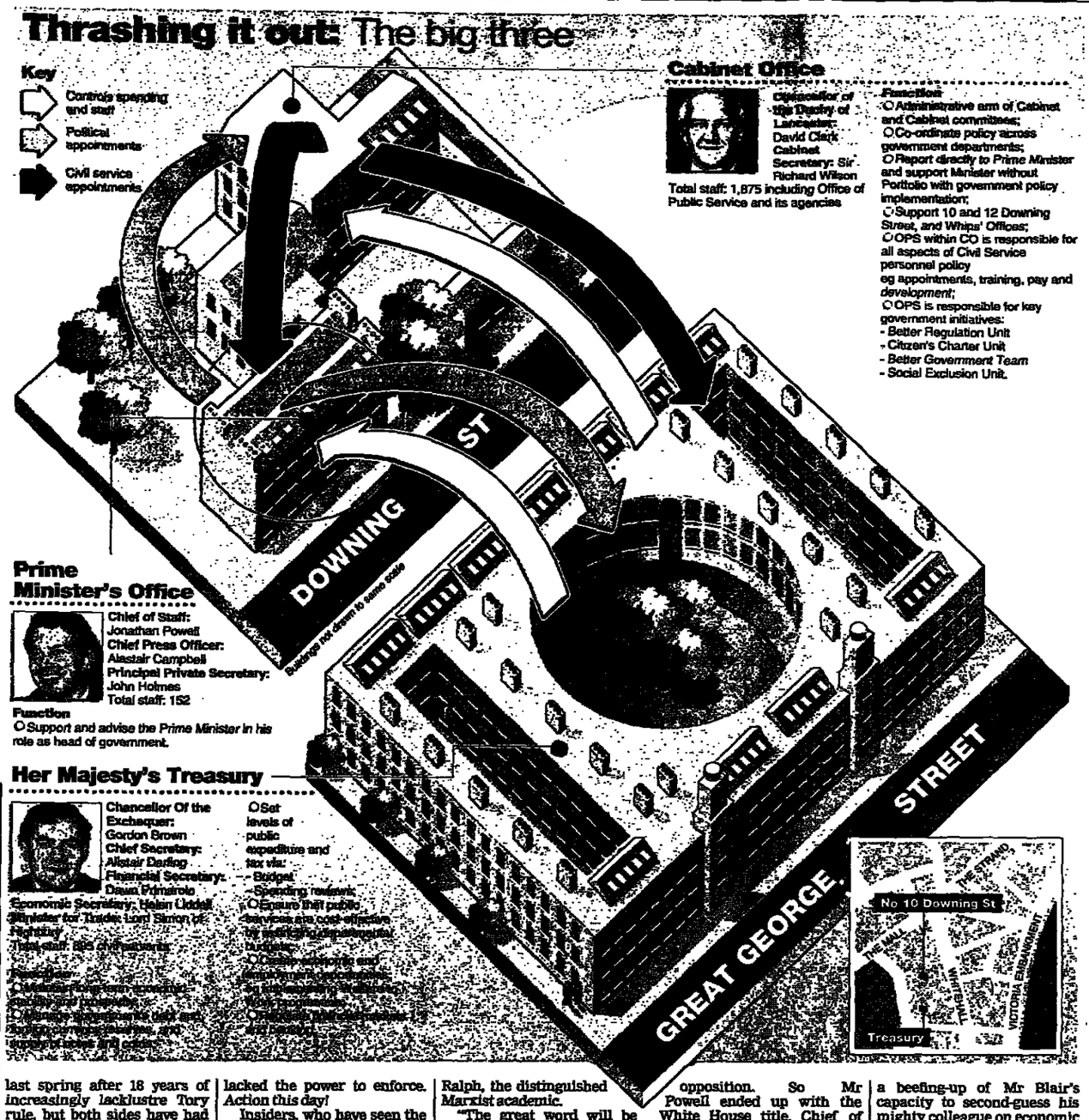
But, as office politicians know in every office, informal relations matter too. Until last month Mr Powell and Mr Holmes shared an office off the ground-floor Cabinet Room at Number 10. Mr Heywood *joined them. They only had to* pass the coffin-shaped cabinet table (where John Major liked to work) to reach the little den where Mr Blair did his business — from a white sofa.

Whitehall gossip highlights *two problems. Neither Mr Pow*ell nor Mr Holmes is a Treasury man (Mr Holmes's predecessor, Alex Allen, was): they are diplomats. Mr Holmes's hands have been full with Ulster, Iraq, intelligence matters, but there have been *some signs of turf battles* between the two men: both ending up going to Washington, flanking Mr Blair at his Oval Office session with President Bill Clinton.

Hence the importance of Mr Heywood's transfer, said to have been resisted by Gordon Brown. Clearly he represents a beefing-up of Mr Blair's capacity to second-guess his mighty colleague on economic *policy. If he does well*, he is certain to get Mr Holmes's job when it falls vacant.

Though most people are too polite to say so, one of the problems facing the new government is not its lack of ideas or *energy, but its disorganisation.* Mr Blair, certainly Chancellor Brown, and others are not tidy people. They have already littered the system with over 100 reviews and task forces. Sir Richard, who is orderly, is charged with tidying things up.

Will a beefed-up Cabinet Office, with Mr Mandelson as enforcer-in-chief, deliver the better outcomes Mr Blair wants? On paper yes. But, given New Labour's passion for presentational detail, for tweaking policies so they do not offend Middle England, for control from the centre, it is a gamble.



Graphics sources: Cabinet Office: *Finding your way round* Whitehall and beyond, 1998, http://www.open.gov.uk/index/orgindex.htm#C.
Graphics: Paddy Allen.
Research: Catharine Freeman, Matthew Keating.

Michael White is the Guardian's political editor; Richard Norton-Taylor is a Whitehall watcher.

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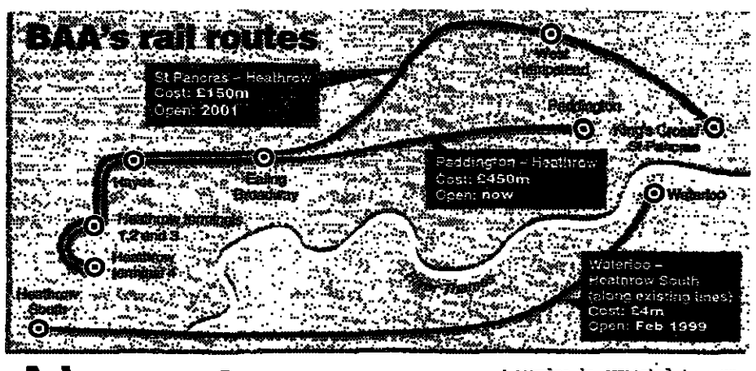
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BAA plans rail takeover



Airport owner finds platform for expansion

Keith Harper and Lisa Buckingham

BRITAIN'S biggest airport owner, BAA, is developing secret plans to take over large sections of the railway network, it confirmed last night.

Paddington station in west London, which is already the home for BAA's £450 million Heathrow Express opened last week by the Prime Minister, could become the hub for a network serving other parts of the country.

A senior BAA source said: "It is true that we are interested in expanding into other parts of the railway. But we are not going to be foolish. We intend proceeding cautiously but we are watching for any opening. It is a long-term plan and the price would have to be right."

Senior BAA executives made it clear that they think the opportunity for expansion exists, particularly as some rail operators may want to give up their franchise as government subsidies, which started at £2 billion last year, gradually run down. Although BAA executives made it clear they have no intention of deserting the core airport management business, they are keen to diversify and want to help create a transport system focused on Heathrow.

The Heathrow Express belongs to BAA. It has been built entirely from BAA's own resources and is the first truely privatised railway to be built since denationalisation. The company is charging passengers £10 for a 15-minute ride direct from Paddington to Heathrow.

The company aims to break even on the project by 2001, and to be well in profit two years after that. The four-times-an-hour service will be carrying six million passengers by the year 2000.

BAA's next route to be developed by 2001 is a £150 million project from St Pancras to Heathrow using similar trains. The service will take 35 minutes and will stop at West Hampstead, Ealing Broadway and Hayes, and will carry many of BAA's staff who travel daily from London to Heathrow. This service is expected to carry three million passengers within one year of start-up.

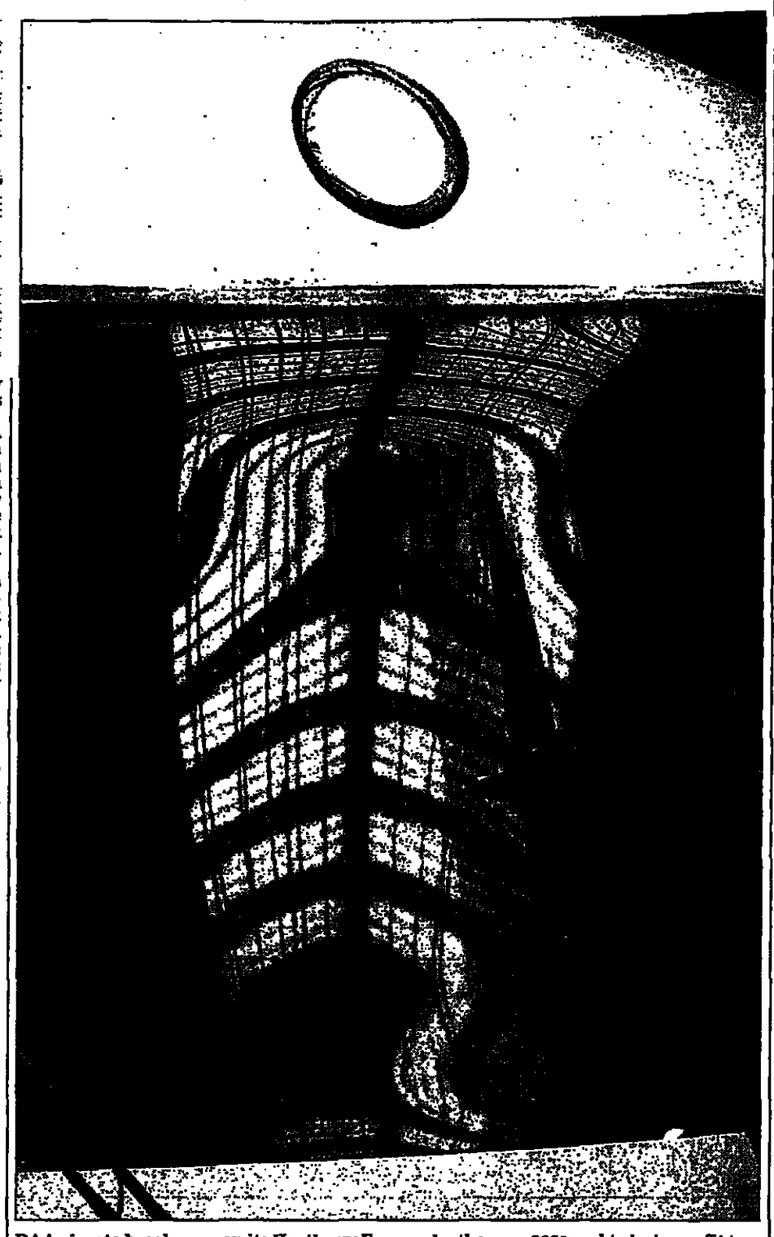
Before then, however, BAA will have linked up with South West Trains to run a service from Waterloo to a new station called Heathrow South. The station will be open next year and a bus link will carry passengers from the new station to the airport.

This is part of an ambitious vision to turn Britain's premier airport into the largest integrated transport hub in the country. British Airways has already announced plans to run trains from Heathrow to Birmingham and Manchester within five years and is interested in running Eurostar services from the station.

Paddington is expected to be the centre for any future BAA expansion. It is the terminus for trains from South Wales and the West Country, operated by FirstGroup. This could make a starting point for any inroads into the passenger network, although BAA executives have so far refused to be specific.

BAA is believed to be keen to diversify as its mainstream business continues to suffer from the downturn of Asian visitors and the loss of duty free business next year. It has been suggested the group might float its retail business, which it is currently repackaging, in a move which could help fund future acquisitions.

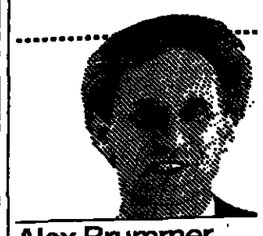
BAA is also building up its overseas operations and has just won a lucrative contract to run the retail and catering facilities at Newark airport, New York, matching its other US operations at Pittsburgh and Indianapolis.



BAA aims to break even on its Heathrow Express by the year 2001 and to be in profit two years later as it plans a transport system focused on the airport PHOTOGRAPH: MARTIN ARGLES

Notebook

Rothschild bats for independents



Alex Brummer

THE notion that it is all over for the independent financial houses is disabused by the financial results from Rothschild Continuation — the holding firm for the main financial interests of the Rothschild network.

Despite the rise of the super investment bank like Morgan Stanley Dean Witter and Goldman Sach's, the independents are doing fine. In the case of Rothschild UK, operating profits were up sharply, and overall the company reported after tax profits up 40 per cent at 155 million Swiss francs (£62.9 million).

Much of the zip in the Rothschild results comes from merger and acquisition activity. Its alliance with ABN Amro, one of the more aggressive of the Continental banks, has proved extremely valuable. In some respects it demonstrates that commercial banks do not necessarily need ownership — like Deutsche Bank of Morgan Grenfell — to establish themselves as a global presence in the corporate finance area. As well as advising on some key UK deals, Rothschild was deeply involved in privatisations from Denmark to Latin America — a legacy of its Thatcherite deals.

As Lazards, Robert Fleming and Schroders have found, you do not have to be "bulge bracket" to attract high quality clients. Nevertheless, there are pitfalls ahead. The second line investment banks must cope with rising IT and staff costs: at Rothschild administrative expenses climbed by 23 per cent in the last year. Moreover, Rothschild is still a relative minnow in the fund management business, in contrast to rivals like Schroders, which has been putting on assets under management at a healthy clip in both the professional and retail markets.

As always with family business, there is also the question of succession. The putative successor to Sir Evelyn de Rothschild, Amschel, committed suicide in a Paris hotel room in 1996. The assumption is that the head of the French bank, Baron David de Rothschild will eventually succeed in London. Such are the mysteries which still cloud the house's future.

Power games

DOGGED determination by Ed Wallis to acquire a regional electricity company appears finally to have paid off with PowerGen's purchase of East Midland for £1.9 billion.

Wallis has long recognised that simply being a generator is an increasingly difficult business as the regional companies develop their generating capacity, the government becomes increasingly involved in fixing the generation market and relatively new players in the quoted sector, like the Energy Group, make an impact.

Although East Midland of itself may not seem a particularly enticing franchise, its purchase brings with it a customer network, through which PowerGen can distribute its own power, but also deliver other utility services.

Scottish Power, which from the privatisation kick-off had generation and distribution capacity, has demonstrated how to bolt on new businesses to the network from telecoms and the Internet, to water.

Usually, vertical power transactions can lead to difficulty with the regulator. But PowerGen clearly believes it has the answer to this problem with its promise to dispose of whatever coal generating capacity is considered appropriate. This, it says, will be enough to avoid a MMC inquiry: it would be hard to believe that it would have gone ahead had it not received prior approval.

As for the Americans, the UK market has proved a much meaner place than they expected. The combination of Gordon Brown's windfall tax, which creamed off £5 billion from the industry, and a toughened regulatory and tax environment has made Britain less alluring at a time when the US home market has been opening up. Dominion is the first to retreat, carrying a smallish profit with it. Others may follow.

Asian backwash

A YEAR after the crisis in emerging markets started in Thailand, the global authorities have still failed to put the genie back in the bottle.

The latest victim is South Africa where the rand is in freefall, after the downward path seen in the Asian currencies and Russia. The effort to stabilise Asia is now largely dependent on Japan, with the Hashimoto government expected to unveil details of the rescue plan for its banks as soon as today. In Russia, the IMF is struggling to come up with a lifeboat, which many analysts believe will have to be between $10 billion and $15 billion to stabilise the rouble.

In South Africa the main concern is that the central bank might be tempted to re-impose exchange controls to hold the rand's value. Although freedom of capital has made the currencies of emerging market economies vulnerable to speculative attack, recent experience from Malaysia suggests that as soon as governments seek to impose rules on capital markets, the tension increases.

The economies which have best survived the assaults are those which have anticipated attack by tightening domestic policy, rather than waiting to be targeted.

However, with so much of the global economy now under siege, it is unclear how long these countries and the European and North American fortresses can remain unbreached.

Rand falls victim to Asian contagion

David Beresford in Johannesburg and Larry Elliott

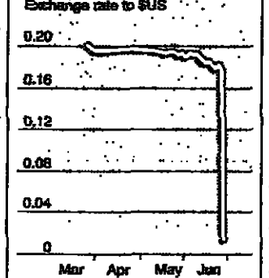
SOUTH AFRICA became the latest country to be caught up in the Asian contagion yesterday as a wave of speculation on the foreign exchanges sent the rand plunging to a record low against the US dollar and the pound.

With the impact of the year-old crisis being felt in Pakistan, New Zealand and South Korea as well as South Africa, dealers continued to seek out safe havens for their money, spurning the emerging markets of Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe and Latin America.

In Karachi, the Pakistan rupee came under renewed attack as traders — already unsettled by the government's policy of nuclear testing — feared that Saturday's devaluation might be followed by another reduction in the value of the currency.

New Zealand announced spending cuts to balance a budget ravaged by recession, and South Korea — one of the first countries to be affected by the financial crisis — reported that industrial output had fallen by 11 per cent in May, following a similar reduction in April.

In South Africa, the authorities watched helplessly as the currency collapse made a nonsense of the determinedly conservative fiscal approach of Nelson Mandela's government, stoking up union pressure for a more expansionary economic policy.



After losing 6 per cent of its value last Friday, the rand fell by a further 5 per cent yesterday to crash through the psychological barriers of R6 to the dollar and R10 to the pound.

The governor of the South African Reserve Bank, Chris Stals, blamed the crisis on an "ambush" by an unidentified US hedge fund which started offloading the rand in New York after the South African market had closed. He attributed the currency's vulnerability to prejudice against emerging markets due to the Asian economic crisis.

South Africa's vulnerability to the speculative attack bore all the hallmarks of a similar dumping of the Russian rouble on the foreign exchanges last month.

There were confused reports over the weekend that the Federal Reserve Bank and the Bank of England had tried to shore up the rand. The reports appear to have added to the loss of confidence, being taken as an indication that the South African government was incapable of defending its currency.

With the rand reaching fresh lows in frenetic trading yesterday morning, the Reserve Bank hurriedly issued assurances that it does not intend re-introducing exchange controls, fearing that contrary rumours were beginning to circulate could trigger a wholesale exodus by foreign investors.

Banks began hiking their prime lending rate to a punitive 22.25 per cent — the highest level in a decade. The currency crisis comes at a particularly unfortunate time for the South African government which is facing growing criticism of "Gear" — its "growth, employment and redistribution" policy. The major union federation, the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu), which is in political alliance with the ANC, has been threatening mass action to protest at the failure of Gear to better the lot of blacks.

Nikkei shrugs off corporate gloom

THE need for urgent action to halt the slide of the world's second-largest economy was underlined yesterday by a Japanese Central Bank survey showing that confidence has reached its lowest point in nearly four years, *writes Jonathan Watts in Tokyo.*

The closely watched "tankan" quarterly poll of corporate sentiment revealed deep pessimism among companies struggling to cope with a credit crunch, rising inventories and falling demand. Prospects of a slight recovery in September and some action on the banking crisis were the only glimmers of hope.

Among major manufacturers the percentage of pessimists exceeded that of optimists by 38 points, the most gloomy outlook since the autumn of 1994. Most complained of idle production lines, excess employees and shrinking profits.

Smaller manufacturers painted an even bleaker picture, with those expecting business conditions to deteriorate now at a level not seen since the oil crisis of 1975. Among small and medium-sized non-manufacturers, confidence was at its lowest point since records began.

Manufacturers forecast a 1.4 per cent decline in pre-tax profits. In response to the harsh climate companies expected to cut investment by 8.7 per cent during the current fiscal year.

Data released yesterday justified the gloom. In May, sales at department stores and supermarkets declined by 0.9 per cent for the 13th year-on-year fall in 14 months. Wholesale turnover dropped by 6.8 per cent. Japanese firms were forced to cut production last month by 2 per cent.

This has accelerated the rise in unemployment. Analysts expect the latest jobless figures, out tomorrow, to show a new post-war high of 4.2 per cent.

The Tokyo Stock Exchange took the latest data in its stride, with the Nikkei rising 155 points, 1 per cent. The yen also pulled back some of the ground it had lost earlier in the day to reach 142 to the dollar.

The bullish sentiment is based on expectations of an improved "tankan" in the autumn, when the effects of the nation's biggest-ever stimulus package, worth 16 trillion yen (£68 billion), begin to be felt.

There was also relief that the government is taking action to deal with the ailing banking system, creaking under the weight of 77 trillion (£327.6 billion) in bad loans. The ruling Liberal Democratic Party will unveil plans on Thursday to establish one or more "bridging banks" to smooth the process of the banking sector shake-out by liquidating non-performing loans and ensuring a steady flow of capital to healthy borrowers.

Such banks are expected to play a prominent role in the planned merger of the Long Term Credit Bank of Japan with Sumitomo Trust and in the liquidation of other banks.

In a sign that doubts still remain over the government's handling of the crisis, the credit ratings agency Fitch IBCA has put the short-term ratings of Sumitomo on alert for a possible downgrade on concern that a merger may weaken its already shaky position. The share price of Sumitomo dropped 5 per cent yesterday.

Ministers investing to keep Britain in lead on cloning

Dan Atkinson

THE Government is spending more than half a million pounds to keep Britain in the lead on controversial cloning technology.

A grant of £600,000 has been made to PPL Therapeutics, the company that jointly carried out the "Dolly" sheep-cloning experiment, which sparked furious debate worldwide when unveiled in February last year.

PPL also has been granted worldwide rights to exploit key aspects of the cloning technology it has developed in partnership with the state-sponsored Roslin Institute in Edinburgh. The company plans to use cloning techniques to bring drugs to market covering cystic fibrosis, haemophilia B, burns and nutritional difficulties.

The drive to ensure Britain stays ahead comes at a time when many had thought the debate on the ethics of cloning was still under way. Britain is pioneering the use of transgenic technology to produce proteins that can be used to treat human ailments. Cows, pigs, sheep or rabbits can be injected with a human gene, thus ensuring the milk that they produce contains proteins that can be turned into treatments for humans.

Roslin and PPL lead the world in a refinement of this technique which allows scientists to put human genes into animals and remove from the creature concerned any animal gene that may impede the process.

The market for cystic fybrosis treatment alone is estimated at £200 million worldwide. PPL's AAT treatment is expected to be on sale in 2001 and will be the company's first publicly-available remedy.

Pitcher package lights new top pay row

Lisa Buckingham and Graham Hind

THE controversy over boardroom greed in the privatised utility companies will intensify today following the disclosure that Sir Desmond Pitcher has left United Utilities with nearly £900,000.

The abrasive executive who was once labelled the "king of the fat cats" and who was ousted as chairman after a boardroom showdown, was given a pay off of £443,630 as well as remuneration of £443,600 for the year to March.

The figures are revealed in the company's annual report delivered to shareholders yesterday. Although the payment is likely to reignite concerns about the level of remuneration in the utility companies, Sir Desmond appears to have accepted less than his contractual entitlement.

Despite best boardroom practice which argues for one-year contracts, Sir Desmond was given a two-year package by United Utilities and that could could have boosted his total payments to more than £1.3 million. But the annual report said that the amount paid was reduced because the company had paid up promptly.

Disclosure of Sir Desmond's pay-off coupled with a 54 per cent rise to £410,800 in total remuneration for Derek Green, the chief executive, coincided with the publication of large increases in the bonuses of some directors at another high profile group, Severn Trent Water. Vic Cocker, the chief executive and brother of the pop singer Joe, received a 22 per cent rise in total remuneration to £292,700 in the year to March.

The rises follow the emergence at the weekend of large bonuses for the board of Yorkshire Water, about which the Chancellor Gordon Brown let it be known he was furious.

There have been suggestions that the Government will attempt to put pressure on shareholders to refuse to sanction very generous remuneration schemes or that it will try to enlist the support of utility regulators to curb boardroom greed.

Many of the salaries and bonus awards at utility companies do, however, reflect their attempts to bring in higher calibre managements. And, after the furore about executive share option windfalls which followed privatisation, most of the remuneration schemes have been approved by shareholders.

The batch of annual reports now emerging from the privatised companies will provide the first real test of how Tony Blair's government will attempt to tackle the issue of executive pay. So far, ministers have simply called on senior directors to set an example to the wider workforce where pay rises are currently running at about 5 per cent.



Pitcher . . . abrasive

TOURIST RATES — BANK SELLS

Australia 2.681	Germany 2.924	Malaysia 6.74	Singapore 2.75
Austria 20.61	Greece 495.34	Malta 0.636	South Africa 9.80
Belgium 60.44	Hong Kong 12.62	Netherlands 3.288	Spain 247.29
Canada 2.37	India 70.92	New Zealand 3.20	Sweden 12.93
Cyprus 0.859	Ireland 1.155	Norway 12.47	Switzerland 2.472
Denmark 11.23	Israel 5.11	Portugal 298.30	Turkey 424,970
Finland 8.995	Italy 2,897	Saudi Arabia 6.13	USA 1.616
France 9.811			

Supplied by NatWest (excluding rupee, shekel and zeloty)

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The Guardian Tuesday June 30

Guardian

Notebook

Rothschild bats for independents



Alex Brummer

THE notion that it is all over for the independent financial adviser ...

Asian backwa

Power games

Ministers investing to keep Britain in lead on cloning

In the World Cup sports pages



France 98

Holland v Yugoslavia 14
Richard Williams hails Germany's great escape 15
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Build-up to the big game: a fan's perspective 16
View from Argentina's camp 16



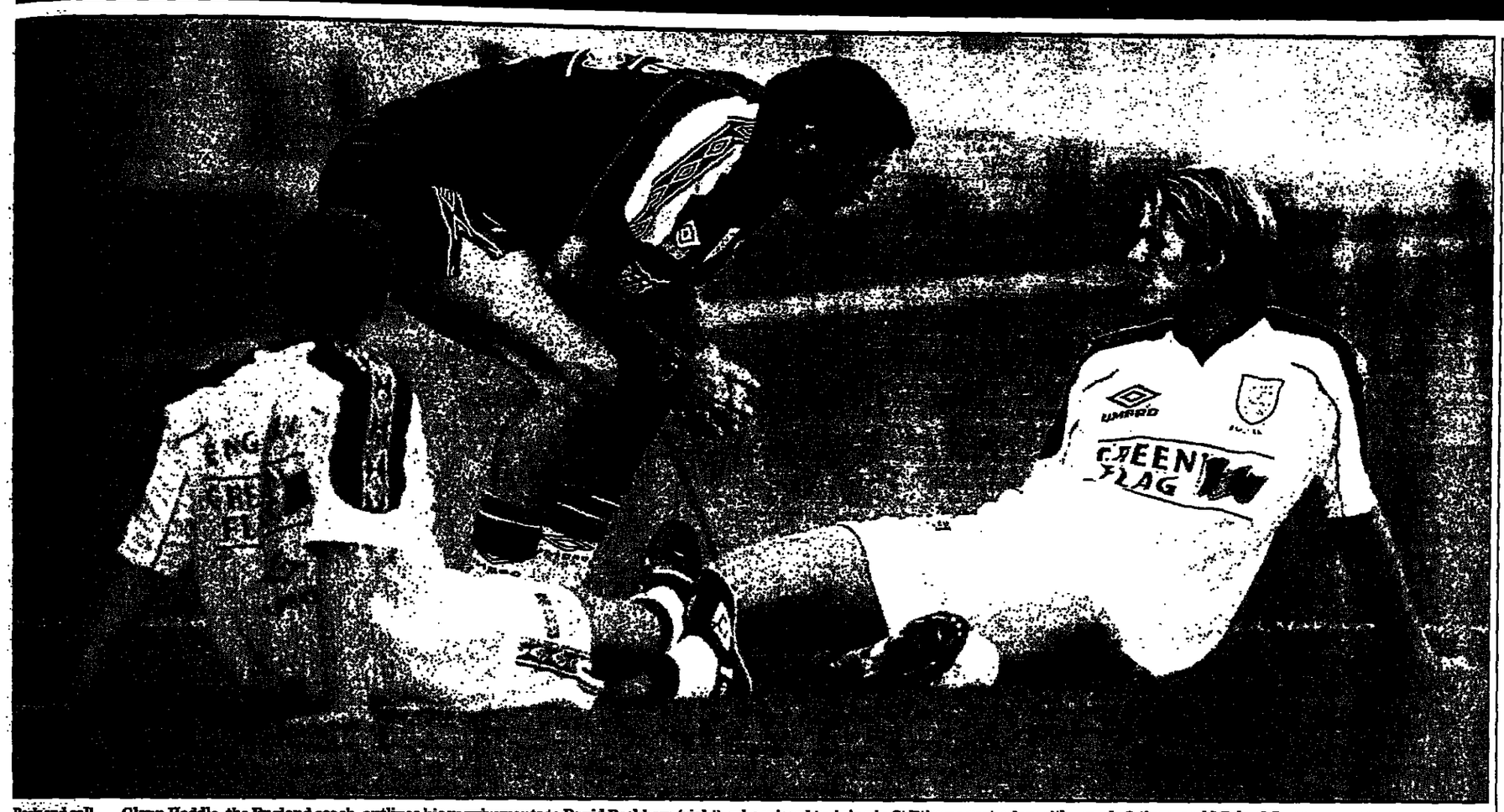
World weary
Edwards and co threatened by hectic schedule
18



About Tim
Henman silences doubters with win over Rafter
20

The Guardian Sport

Tuesday June 30 1998 www.football.guardian.co.uk/worldcup



Beck and call . . . Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, outlines his requirements to David Beckham (right), who missed training in St Etienne yesterday with muscle fatigue, and Michael Owen PHOTOGRAPH: RUSSELL BOYCE

England seek a hand from God

David Lacey in St Etienne believes Michael Owen's pace can confound Argentina

THE hopes and fears of a good many years will rest with Glenn Hoddle's England team in the Geoffroy Guichard stadium here tonight. Beating Argentina would not merely take England to the quarter-finals of the 1998 World Cup, it would convince the doubters that under Hoddle the nation still has a side to be taken seriously as putative winners of a major tournament.

In the semi-finals of the 1996 European Championship, at the end of Terry Venables's brief reign as coach, the width of a post denied Darren Anderton the golden goal which would have taken England to the final at Germany's expense. Almost inevitably the Germans won the penalty shoot-out, much as they had done in Turin in the 1990 World Cup semi-finals.

English football can ill afford another such anticlimax so soon. The game's biggest boom yet was born out of Paul Gascoigne's tears in Italia 90. An early departure now, especially at the hands of England's supreme bêtes noires, would deal the English game a severe blow, and never mind the large number of Premiership players who would be left in the tournament.

Germany may still be stuck in England's craw but at least this time the teams cannot meet until the final. Tonight is Hoddle's opportunity to purge the nation's consciousness of older, badder memories of things Argentinian. It really is time to consign the Hand of God to history.

At the heart of England's late revival that afternoon in the Aztec stadium 12 years ago lay the speed of John Barnes on the left wing. Bobby Robson brought Barnes off the bench with just under a quarter of an hour to go and the tiring Argentina defenders could not handle him.

For England, pace will be just as important tonight. Daniel Passarella's defence has not conceded a goal in eight matches but Michael Owen could be their nemesis. Alan Shearer, moreover, is overdue a second goal in the tournament and never was there a better time for Anderton to complete his international comeback with the sort of goal he scored against Colombia in Lens last Friday.

The strength of that England performance looks like persuading Hoddle to field an unchanged side. Gareth Southgate, though recovered from the foot injury which kept him out against Romania and Colombia, is not, it seems, about to return to the back three for Gary Neville. David Beckham, rested yesterday with muscle fatigue, will stay in midfield.

Hoddle knows Argentina will be a vastly different proposition to the careless, casual Colombians. Beckham, whose successful switch to central midfield was enhanced by the amount of space he was given, will find life rather more fraught against Matias Almeyda, Javier Zanetti and Juan Veron.

Paul Scholes will find himself more ruthlessly tracked down when he tries to move into scoring positions. At least Owen is unlikely to be introduced to Nestor Sensini — still suffering from a hamstring injury — the hard way.

Argentina are clear favourites. How could it be otherwise, given their World Cup past and the present technique and durability of the present side. Gabriel Batistuta is one of the modern game's outstanding finishers and in the skill and stealth of Ariel Ortega he has the perfect foil.

For England, should they fall behind, it will be less a question of scaling a mountain than trying to cross the Andes. Seldom has more been asked of Tony Adams and those whose job it is to give him support. The idea of Sol Campbell being drawn out to the left flank, leaving Adams unprotected in the middle, does not bear thinking about.

Hoddle is setting a lot of store by the confidence his team took not only from beating Colombia 2-0 but creating enough chances to have trebled that score. "We're going into the game with a positive stride and rightly so off the back of that performance," he said. "It would be wrong not to use that.

"Argentina are a good, disciplined side. They've got class players and they're hard to break down. But the bigger the game the better we respond sometimes. There's no tension in our camp at all and there's a very positive streak running throughout the team.

"We've worked on producing the collective aggression to win the ball back and did it very well against Colombia. Whether we can do the same against Argentina only the game will show. Certainly you can't do it for 90 minutes. It's an impossibility.

"I think Argentina are a disciplined side. Passarella has seen where they can improve as a team, he's disciplined their players and brought them up the way he wants."

For England to have the best chance of beating the country many consider the most likely alternatives to Brazil as World Cup winners this time, Hoddle's team must not allow Argentina to dictate the shape and tempo of the match. Shearer believes that the way the team began against Colombia is the best way to go about things tonight.

"From the first minute we went at Colombia," the England captain said, "and there was no turning back. But they were ideal opponents to do that against. Other sides have better players and it might be difficult to go at them. But if you sit back against anybody it becomes very hard to pick up the pace of the game at a later stage."

The longer this evening's game goes without a goal the more chance there will be of a stalemate followed by sudden-death extra-time and, if necessary, a penalty shoot-out. Either conclusion would be a cruel denouement for the losers but, after what happened in 1986, 1990 and 1996, England would be better able to handle it.

Hoddle is unlikely to win the World Cup, whatever happens here tonight. But if his team stop Argentina winning it his stock will soar and the nation will once more be agog with anticipation. And the Argentinians are due a bad day at the office.

ENGLAND (probable): Seaman; G Neville, Adams, Campbell; Anderton, Ince, Beckham, Le Saux; Scholes; Shearer, Owen.
ARGENTINA (probable): Roa; Vivas, Ayala, Chamot; Almeyda, Zanetti, Veron, Simeone, Ortega; Batistuta, Lopez.
Referee K Nielsen (Denmark).

England's World Cup meetings with Argentina



Uruguayans in their defeat by West Germany. Several of England's 1966 team felt Argentina were the strongest opponents they faced.

1953
England 1, Argentina 2
Wembley Stadium
Match City Medal

Bobby Robson's hapless team, which had enjoyed intoxicating wins over Italy and Chile, faced an Argentinian side containing the greatest player of his generation, Di Stefano. The turning point came early in the second half and again involved a controversial refereeing decision.

Maradona's [illegible] goal



(above) and his deceptive second four minutes later won the tie. However, England rallied with the introduction of Barnes on the left wing, Lineker playing one back and quickly within inches of an equaliser.



This is Hoddle's opportunity to purge a nation's memories. It is time to consign the Hand of God to history

DAY 21

Romania v Croatia

- **Venue** Parc Lescure, Bordeaux
- **Kick-off** 3.30pm BST
- **Referee** Javier Castrilli (Argentina)
- **Previous meeting** 1990 Romania 1–0 Croatia
- **Injuries** Romania have two long-term injuries, Tibor Selymes and reserve keeper Dumitru Stingaciu, but Adrian Ilie (muscular problems) and Dan Petrescu (knee) hope to start. Croatia's striker Goran Vlaovic is also doubtful.
- **Suspended** Zvonimir Soldo (Croatia)

Live on BBC1 from 3.15pm
Live on Eurosport from 3.20pm

Argentina v England

- **Venue** Stade Geoffroy-Guichard, St Etienne
- **Kick-off** 6.00pm BST
- **Referee** Kim Nielsen (Denmark)

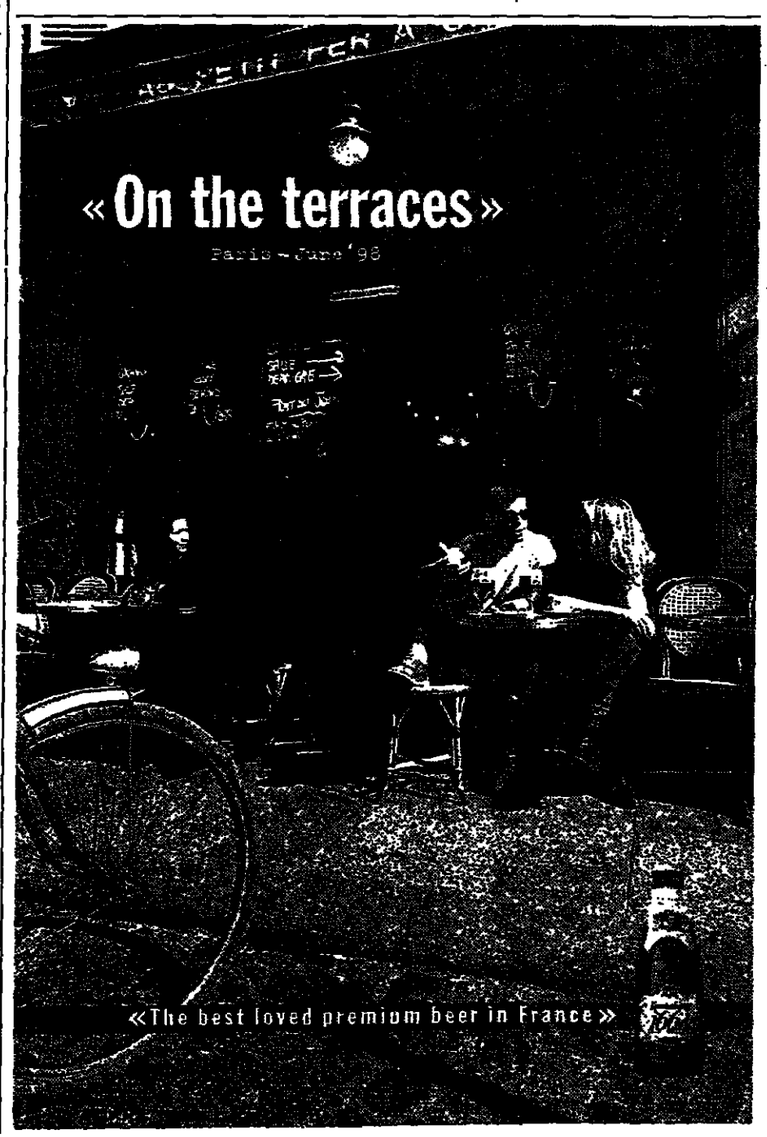
1951 Argentina 2, England 1
1953 England 1, Argentina 2
1962 1–3
1966 0–2 *World Cup*
1974 2–2

- **Injuries** Argentina's defender Roberto Sensini is doubtful (thigh strain).
- **Suspended** None

Live on ITV from 7.30pm
Highlights on BBC1 at 11.20pm

Spread bet of the day: Bet the opportunity of Argentina against England's total Sporting Index spread is 5–6.5.

Matches are knock-out and the golden goal rule will apply if extra-time is required. Penalty kicks will decide the result if no goals are scored in 30 minutes of extra-time.



Road to the final



A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brazil	3	2	0	1	5	3	6
Norway	3	1	2	0	5	4	5
Morocco	3	1	1	1	5	5	4
Scotland	3	0	1	2	2	5	1

Wed. June 10 - St-Denis

Brazil 2
Cesar Sampaio 4, Boyd (og) 75
Scotland 1
Collins (pen) 26
Attendance: 80,000

Wed. June 10 - Montpellier

Morocco 2
Hadji 38, Hadda 59
Norway 2
Chippo (og) 45, Eggen 62
Attendance: 28,750

Thu. June 11 - Grenoble

Scotland 1
Sutey 67
Norway 1
H Flo 46
Attendance: 30,236

Thu. June 11 - Nantes

Brazil 3
Ronaldo 9, Rivaldo 45, Bebeto 50
Morocco 0
Attendance: 33,268

Fri. June 12 - Marseille

Brazil 1
Bebeto 79
Norway 2
T A Flo 83, Rekdal (pen) 89
Attendance: 55,900

Fri. June 12 - St-Etienne

Scotland 0
Morocco 3
Basir 22, 84, Hadda 47
Attendance: 35,000

B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Italy	3	2	1	0	7	3	7
Chile	3	2	0	1	4	4	6
Austria	3	0	2	1	3	4	2
Cameroon	3	0	1	2	1	5	1

Thu. June 11 - Bordeaux

Italy 2
Vieri 10, Fi Baggio (pen) 85
Chile 2
Salas 45, 50
Attendance: 31,800

Thu. June 11 - Toulouse

Cameroon 1
Njanka 77
Austria 1
Polster 90
Attendance: 37,500

Fri. June 12 - St-Etienne

Chile 1
Salas 70
Austria 1
Vastic 90
Attendance: 36,000

Wed. June 17 - Montpellier

Italy 3
Di Biagio 8, Vieri 75, 89
Cameroon 0
Attendance: 35,000

Fri. June 19 - St-Denis

Italy 2
Vieri 45, Fi Baggio 90
Austria 1
Herzog (pen) 90
Attendance: 75,000

Fri. June 19 - Nantes

Chile 1
Sierra 21
Cameroon 1
Mboma 56
Attendance: 39,000

C

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	3	3	0	0	5	1	9
Denmark	3	1	1	1	3	3	4
S Africa	3	0	2	1	3	6	2
S Arabia	3	0	1	2	2	7	1

Fri. June 12 - Lens

Saudi Arabia 0
Denmark 1
Riseer 68
Attendance: 36,140

Fri. June 12 - Marseille

France 3
Dugarry 35, Issa (og) 76, Henry 90
South Africa 0
Attendance: 55,077

Tue. June 16 - Toulouse

South Africa 1
McCarthy 52
Denmark 1
Nielsen 13
Attendance: 36,500

Thu. June 18 - St-Denis

France 4
Henry 36, 77, Trezeguet 69, Lizarazu 85
Saudi Arabia 0
Attendance: 75,000

Wed. June 24 - Lyon

France 2
Djorkaeff (pen) 13, Petit 56
Denmark 1
M Laudrup (pen) 42
Attendance: 43,500

Wed. June 24 - Bordeaux

South Africa 2
Bartlett 18, (pen) 90
Saudi Arabia 2
Al-Jaber (pen) 45, Al-Thyniyan (pen) 73
Attendance: 34,500

D

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nigeria	3	2	0	1	5	3	6
Paraguay	3	1	2	0	3	1	5
Spain	3	1	1	1	5	4	4
Bulgaria	3	0	1	2	1	7	1

Fri. June 12 - Montpellier

Paraguay 0
Bulgaria 0
Attendance: 27,850

Sat. June 13 - Nantes

Spain 2
Hierro 21, Raul 47
Nigeria 3
Adepoju 24, Lawal 73, Oliseh 79
Attendance: 33,857

Fri. June 19 - Paris

Nigeria 1
Ikpeba 27
Bulgaria 0
Attendance: 48,500

Fri. June 19 - St-Etienne

Spain 0
Paraguay 0
Attendance: 35,300

Wed. June 24 - Lens

Spain 6
Hierro (pen) 6, Luis Enrique 18, Morientes 53,81 Kiko 86,90
Bulgaria 1
Kostadinov 56 *Attendance: 40,500*

Wed. June 24 - Toulouse

Nigeria 1
Oruma 10
Paraguay 3
Ayala 1, Benitez 59, Cardoso 86
Attendance: 36,500

E

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Holland	3	1	2	0	7	4	5
Mexico	3	1	2	0	7	5	5
Belgium	3	0	3	0	3	3	3
S Korea	3	0	1	2	2	6	1

Sat. June 13 - Lyon

South Korea 1
Ha Seok-Ju 28
Mexico 3
Palaez 51, Hernandez 75, 84
Attendance: 37,588

Sat. June 13 - St-Denis

Holland 0
Belgium 0
Attendance: 75,000

Sat. June 20 - Bordeaux

Belgium 2
Wilmots 43, 46
Mexico 2
Garcia Aspe (pen) 68, Blanco 83
Attendance: 34,760

Sat. June 20 - Montpellier

Holland 5
Cocu 37, Overmars 41, Bergkamp 71, Van Hooijdonk 79, R De Boer 83
South Korea 0
Attendance: 60,000

Thu. June 25 - St-Etienne

Holland 2
Cocu 4, R de Boer 18
Mexico 2
Palaez 75, Hernandez 90
Attendance: 35,500

Thu. June 25 - Paris

Belgium 1
Nilis 7
South Korea 1
Yoo 70
Attendance: 48,500

F

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Germany	3	2	1	0	5	2	7
Yugoslavia	3	2	1	0	4	2	7
Iran	3	1	0	2	3	4	3
US	3	0	0	3	1	5	0

Sun. June 14 - St-Etienne

Yugoslavia 1
Mihailovic 73
Iran 0
Attendance: 30,392

Mon. June 15 - Paris

Germany 2
Möller 9, Klinsmann 65
United States 0
Attendance: 45,875

Sat. June 20 - Lens

Germany 2
Mihailovic (og) 73, Bierhoff 80
Yugoslavia 2
Mijatovic 13, Stojkovic 54
Attendance: 40,775

Sat. June 20 - Lyon

United States 1
McBride 87
Iran 2
Estili 40, Mahdavikia 84
Attendance: 44,000

Sun. June 28 - Montpellier

Germany 2
Bierhoff 50, Klinsmann 58
Iran 0
Attendance: 35,000

Tue. June 23 - Nantes

United States 0
Yugoslavia 1
Komljenovic 4
Attendance: 39,000

G

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Romania	3	2	1	0	5	2	7
England	3	2	0	1	5	2	6
Colombia	3	1	0	2	1	3	3
Tunisia	3	0	1	2	1	4	1

Mon. June 15 - Marseille

England 2
Shearer 42, Scholes 90
Tunisia 0
Attendance: 54,587

Mon. June 15 - Lyon

Romania 1
Ilie 45
Colombia 0
Attendance: 37,572

Tue. June 23 - Montpellier

Colombia 1
Preciado 83
Tunisia 0
Attendance: 35,000

Wed. June 24 - Toulouse

Romania 2
Moldoveh 47, Petrescu 90
England 1
Owen 83
Attendance: 37,500

Fri. June 26 - St-Denis

Romania 1
Moldoveh 72
Tunisia 1
Bouayeh (pen) 10
Attendance: 80,000

Fri. June 26 - Lens

Colombia 0
England 2
Anderton 20, Beckham 30
Attendance: 41,275

H

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Argentina	3	3	0	0	7	0	9
Croatia	3	2	0	1	3	2	6
Jamaica	3	1	0	2	3	9	3
Japan	3	0	0	3	1	4	0

Sun. June 14 - Toulouse

Argentina 1
Ballesta 28
Japan 0
Attendance: 33,400

Sun. June 21 - Lens

Jamaica 1
Earle 45
Croatia 3
Stanic 27, Prosinecki 53, Suker 69
Attendance: 36,059

Sun. June 21 - Paris

Japan 0
Croatia 1
Suker 77
Attendance: 39,000

Sun. June 21 - Paris

Argentina 5
Ortega 32, 55 Batistuta 73, 79, (pen) 83
Jamaica 0
Attendance: 48,500

Fri. June 26 - Bordeaux

Argentina 1
Pineda 36
Croatia 0
Attendance: 35,000

Fri. June 26 - Lyon

Japan 1
Nakayama 75
Jamaica 2
Whitmore 39, 54
Attendance: 43,500

SECOND ROUND

GAME 1	GAME 2	GAME 3	GAME 4
Sat. June 27 Nantes	Saint-Etienne	Lens	Stade de France
Brazil 4	**Italy** 1	**France** 1	**Nigeria** 1
Sampaio 11, 27	Vieri 18	Blanc 114	Babangida 77
Ronaldo (pen) 45, 70	**Norway** 0	**Paraguay** 0	**Denmark** 4
Chile 1	*Attendance: 60,000*	*Attendance: 41,275*	Moller 3, B Laudrup 12
Salas 68			Sand 60, Helveg 76
Attendance: 49,300			*Attendance: 79,500*

GAME 5	GAME 6	GAME 7	GAME 8
Mon. June 29 Toulouse	Mon. June 29 Montpellier	Tue. June 30 Bordeaux (5.30pm)	Tue. June 30 St Etienne (8pm)
Holland 1	**Germany** 2	**Romania**	**Argentina**
Bergkamp 38, Davids 90	Klinsmann 75, Bierhoff 86	**Croatia**	**England**
Yugoslavia 1	**Mexico** 1	BBC	ITV
Komljanovic 48	Hernandez 47		
Attendance: 37,000	*Attendance: 35,000*		

QUARTER FINALS

GAME A	GAME B	GAME C	GAME D
Fri. July 3 Marseille (9pm)	Fri. July 3 St-Denis (5.30pm)	Sat. July 4 Marseille (5.30pm)	Sat. July 4 Lyon (9pm)
Brazil	**Italy**	**Holland**	**Germany**
Denmark	**France**	Game B winners	Game A winners

SEMI FINALS

Tue. July 7 - Marseille (9pm)	Wed. July 8 - St-Denis (9pm)
Game A winners	Game B winners
Game C winners	Game D winners

3RD/4TH PLACE PLAY-OFF

Sat. July 11 - Paris (8pm)

Losers of first semi-final

Losers of second semi-final

FINAL

Sunday, July 12 - St-Denis (8pm)

Winner of **first** semi-final

Winner of **second** semi-final

ALL TIMES BST

France 98

Second round: Holland 2 Yugoslavia 1

Davids does trick for Dutch

Martin Thorpe in Toulouse sees Holland clinch it with late deflection

AN UNATTRACTIVE, bad-tempered game was settled a minute into injury-time here last night — and not a moment too soon at that — when Edgar Davids's fierce drive from the edge of Yugoslavia's area took a cruel deflection to put Holland through.

It was hard not to feel for the losers, who had fought back well after a first 45 minutes completely dominated by the Dutch. But for a missed penalty from Predrag Mijatovic it might have been they who now await England or Argentina.

This was a clash between two sides very similar in composition, both stocked with players who ply their club trade away from their own shores and both packed with individual talent which often struggles to coalesce as a unit.

For Yugoslavia, this uncertainty has not been helped by injuries to their strike force. With Darko Kovacevic out since the Germany game, the coach Slobodan Santrac was pleased to see Mijatovic recover from a knock. But whom to play alongside him?

Santrac surprised many by picking neither of his obvious options, the experienced but injury-prone Dejan Savicevic, the eternally disappointing Savo Milosevic or the promising 21-year-old Perica Ognjenovic, choosing instead to recall the workhorse Branko Brnovic to midfield and leave Mijatovic up on his own with Lazio's Vladimir Jugovic emerging from a packed midfield to support wide on the left when necessary.

Holland meanwhile had caused a stir of their own by leaving out Wim Jonk and replacing him with Clarence Seedorf, on the bench for the last two games. Murmurs that this had been done to appease Seedorf and the black camp within the squad were already rumbling well before kick-off.

But though Holland perhaps came into the game as favourites, Yugoslavia came into it with a better first-round record. The Dutch had managed two draws and just one win whereas two wins and a draw had propelled the Baltic side to this stage.

The Yugoslavs' greatest feat had been the magic hour of attacking brilliance which left the Germans trailing 3-0 in the first round. For this game, though, they had clearly decided that defence was the best policy, and as a result the first-half momentum was all Holland's.

However, though the Dutch controlled midfield they struggled to make their normal use of the wings. Zeljko Petrovic stuck limpet-like to Marc Overmars on the left wing and across the other side Slobodan Komljenovic followed Ronald de Boer like a faithful dog.

Twice, though, de Boer threw Komljenovic off the scent. On four minutes he sent over a cross too high for Philip Cocu in the centre. Then on the half-hour he cleverly turned the full-back and fed Cocu in the area. The striker laid off the ball for Seedorf, whose 14-yard goal-bound shot was pushed away by the diving Ivica Kralj. Dennis Bergkamp had aleady tested the Yugoslav keeper six minutes earlier with a 20-yard shot which Kralj pushed away in similar fashion.

Things were beginning to open up for Holland and on 39 minutes, just after Cocu kept Kralj busy with a glancing header, the keeper made his first error. As Frank de Boer's long free-kick reached Bergkamp on the left of the area, he shoulder-charged Mirkovic and fired in a low shot which Kralj allowed to go through an outstretched hand.

Yugoslavia produced their first real chance a minute later, Edwin van der Sar pouncing on Sinisa Mihailovic's long-distance free-kick. But so far defence was not proving Yugoslavia's best policy.

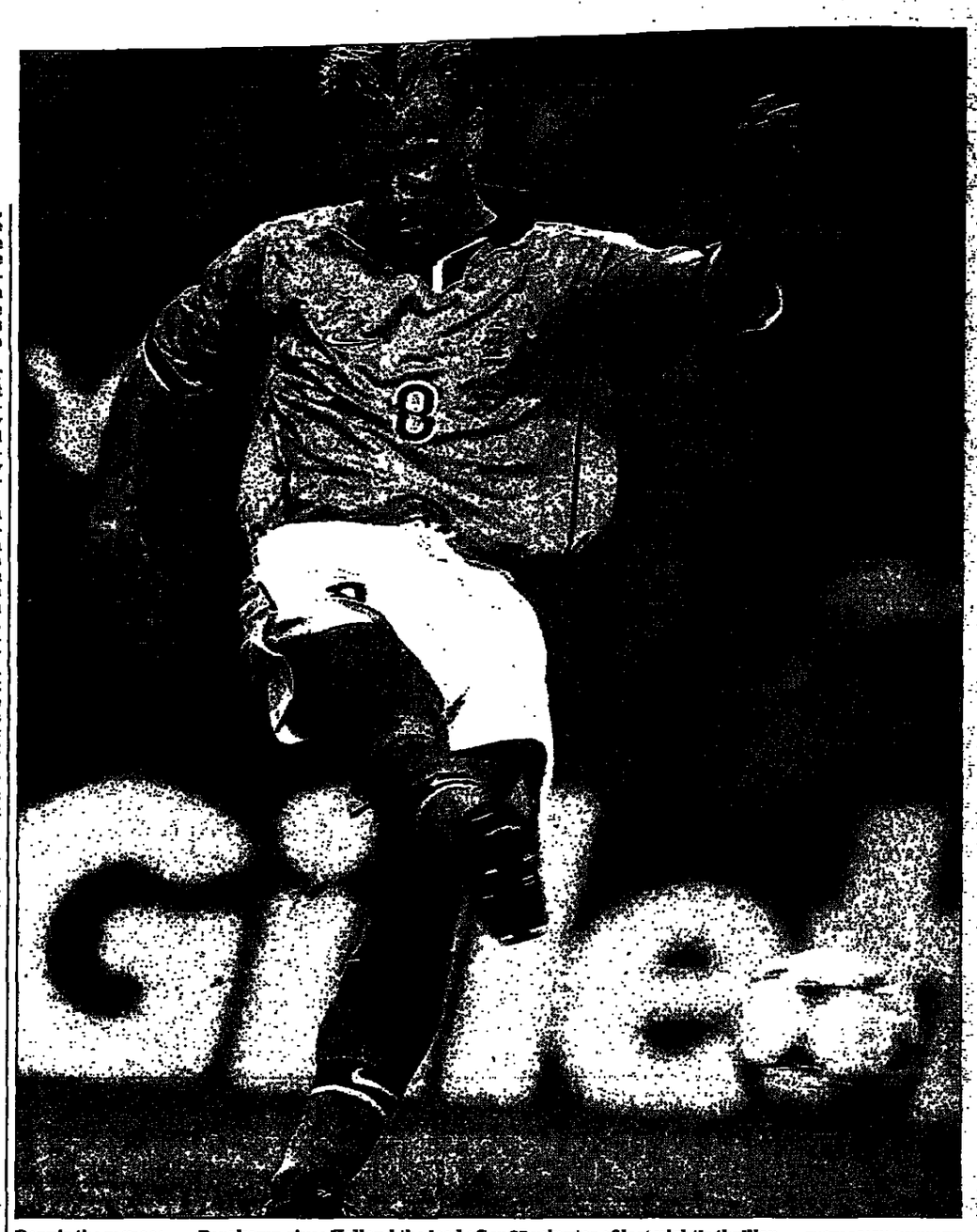
Santrac reinforced his attack at half-time, though again refusing to bring in a recognised striker and instead pushing the 33-year-old captain Dragan Stojkovic up front with Mijatovic. The extra forward momentum immediately paid dividends as Yugoslavia scored a goal and missed a penalty within six minutes of the restart.

After three minutes Michael Reiziger fouled Mijatovic on the left side of the area. Stojkovic floated the free-kick over Cocu where Komljenovic headed in unmarked on the back post.

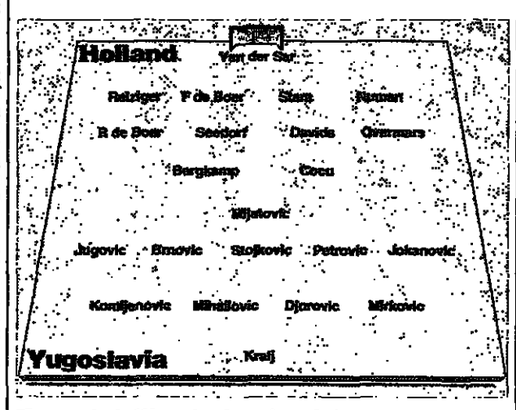
Shortly afterwards Vladimir Jugovic turned Jaap Stam on the edge of the Dutch area and Manchester United's new signing pulled the midfielder back by the shirt. Mijatovic cracked the penalty against the bar; he was distraught.

Seconds later came a nasty incident in which Bergkamp should have been sent off. After tackling Mihailovic he then clearly trod on the Yugoslav as he lay on the ground, and right in front of the linesman. The Yugoslavs angrily surrounded the Arsenal striker as objects rained on to the pitch. Somehow Bergkamp escaped even a caution. In fact Zoran Mirkovic was booked for protesting too much. The atmosphere was turning ugly.

SUBSTITUTIONS Yugoslavia Savicevic for Stojkovic, 57min; Saveljic for Mihailovic, 78.
BOOKED Yugoslavia: Djorovic, Mirkovic, Stojkovic
REFEREE: J-M Garcia Aranda (Spa).



Dennis the menace . . . Bergkamp gives Holland the lead after 38 minutes of last night's thriller PHOTOGRAPH: IAN WALDIE



Bowl of squeezed orange produces a rum punch

Ian Ross sees trouble brewing as the mixed crowd in Toulouse turns nasty

TO the left Orange, to the right Orange, down the centre Orange. All in all it was a bit of a tricky one for the French organising committee to explain away.

How the CFO must have yearned for those more simplistic days when television pictures flickered in and out of focus in varying shades of grey, when the shortcomings of such a blatantly unfair and unworkable ticketing system were not so dramatically highlighted by the fashion for garishly replica shirts.

For the purposes of the Coupe de Monde 98 the pleasant, unassuming Stadium Municipal in Toulouse has a match-day capacity of 37,000. Last night all but 5,000 of those places should have been filled by the locals of a friendly region which has embraced this tournament with prevalent colour of house-bricks in the area — were in evidence but in their hundreds only. They were easy to pick out. They were wearing not orange but pastel shades. Without the face paint and bizarre headgear which are now almost mandatory, they looked like parents who had arrived too early, having been cajoled into picking up their errant teenage offspring from a late-night party.

Slotted between the orange slab behind the goal which Holland bore down on in the opening half and the demurely attired French who came alive only when lifted to their feet by a Mexican wave, were the Yugoslavs, the representatives of a divided, mauled and embittered nation. There were no more than 1,000 of them.

> The fans parted as the peacemakers poured in, stewards first and then the riot police

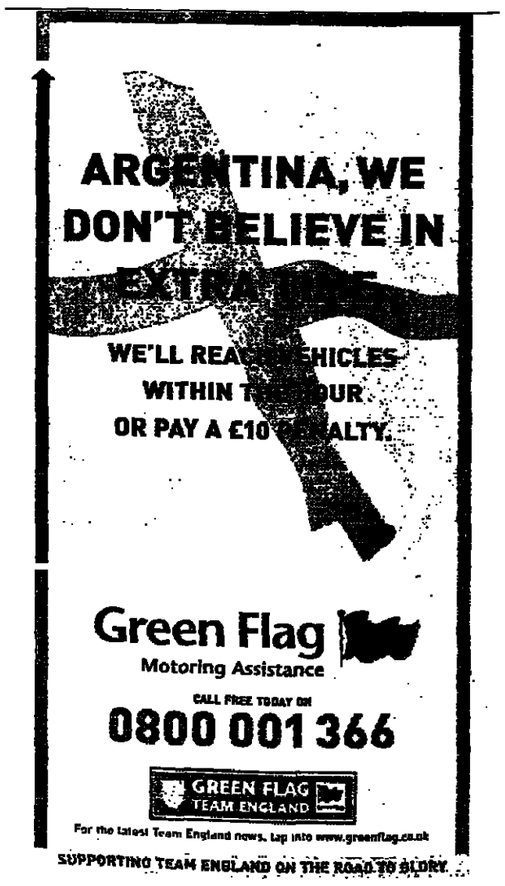
The question of where the Dutch obtained their tickets is hardly worth posing. The average fan, whether from Amsterdam or Belgrade, is resourceful and can normally be expected to get precisely what he wants while abroad: bed, burger, bird and, in this case, *billet*.

There was no segregation last night but no one was bothered, at least not until half-time. By consensus the Dutch have the most sporting supporters in world football and again it was one big touchy-feelie party.

Even after 38 minutes, when Dennis Bergkamp swept in low and hard through the spread fingers of the Yugoslav goalkeeper, there was no sense of unease. Then, with the players cocooned in their dressing-rooms, a punch was thrown among the small Yugoslav contingent, then another and another. The crowd parted as the peacemakers poured in, stewards first and then, belatedly, the riot police.

So what of today and the second phase's two remaining fixtures: Romania v Croatia in Bordeaux and, more worrying, England v Argentina in St Etienne? It is believed that as many as 4,000 England fans may have bought tickets for the Bordeaux game in the mistaken belief that England, and not Romania, would top their Group. Even without the prospect of the boys with the three lions on their shirts acting as a mixer, Romania against Croatia is a potentially heady cocktail.

The possible consequences of allowing England and Argentina to compete in front of an unsegregated audience does not bear consideration if there can be trouble at a Dutch match.





صكاس الاصل

صكذا من الاصل

France 98

Second round: Germany 2 Mexico 1

Matthaus steadies the German juggernaut



Strikers' joy . . . the goalscorers Oliver Bierhoff, left, and Jürgen Klinsmann celebrate Germany's 2–1 victory after Mexico had led 1–0 with 20 minutes left PHOTOGRAPH: MICHAEL URBAN

Mexico the brave wave goodbye

Michael Walker sees the underdogs pay a heavy price for getting their retaliation in first

EVEN as the ball swished into the Germany net, even as Luis Hernandez peeled away in celebration and even as he was joined by those springing off the Mexican bench and others jumping to their feet in the stands, collectively Mexico must have known that they had just committed an error of fundamental proportions.

Not wrong in itself, of course — after all, they had just scored against Germany — but not terribly clever. The goal came at the wrong time and there are two reasons for saying that.

First, it is axiomatic that any team who take the lead against Germany will ultimately lose. England have discovered this to their cost in the past, so too Northern Ireland who had twice led the Germans in their qualifying group. So had Ukraine, so had Albania; so did Yugoslavia in the previous round of these finals. But none of them left for the dressing-room to shower in the cool waters of victory. Nor did Mexico yesterday.

The second part of the failure equation, though, belonged well and truly to Mexico. Any Mexican worth his chili would have told you that their success in France has stemmed from them not scoring first.

Three times in three Group E matches Mexico were down at half-time. South Korea were one-up, Holland and Belgium two-up, but on each occasion the Mexicans fought back, once to win, twice to draw.

Moreover, in each of those games one Juninho-like young man, Jesus Arellano, had come on at half-time (or the 46th minute now that Fifa has told us how to tell the time).

But here, with Hernandez having given them the lead and with the Germans on the verge of wilting in flesh-burning heat, Arellano came on in the 53rd minute. Of all people we should be able to rely on footballers to stick with lucky omens, and surely it cannot have gone unnoticed in the Mexico camp that each revival has coincided with Arellano's appearance in the 46th minute, not the 53rd.

What made things worse was that the Mexican fans then burst into what is their signature tune but what is in reality the most ridiculous chant in the World Cup, possibly in the world. "Ho-la! Ho-la!" they shout, "Mexico, Mexico ra ra ra."

Only in English public schools and at Melchester Rovers do people sing ra, ra, ra. Or so it was thought. But not even Melchester with Roy Race in the side would have beaten Germany, and Mexico's version of Race — Hernandez — was never going to bother them unduly either.

Hernandez, during his time with Boca Juniors in Argentina, was actually christened the "Mexican Caniggia", a description he may have found slanderous for he was soon off back to Mexico. Here, every neutral in the ground and in the watching world wanted to see him and his criminal hairstyle in the quarter-finals.

Hernandez could, and should, have fulfilled those wishes only 15 minutes after unfairly, as it turned out, raising everyone's hopes. Then, with only the exceedingly dodgy Andreas Köpke to beat from four yards, his shot hit the German. Slow and casual, it was everything his first effort had not been.

At that moment all of Germany sighed. They knew, they always knew, that no matter how poorly the team are performing or how many personal spats Lothar Matthäus and Jürgen Klinsmann get involved in — and there were a few of those yesterday — Germany would still find the will if not the skill to win.

They knew because Teutonic telepathy told them, the instant a speculative high cross lodged in the gait of a man called Lara, that Mexico had been trapped. Leg-before Klinsmann.

Oliver Bierhoff's winner was so inevitable the wonder was why both sides continued playing, and it was entirely natural that once Bierhoff's header had swished into the Mexican net, and he had peeled away in celebration, no one was waiting for a comeback. Fatally, Mexico had got their retaliation in first.

Bierhoff packs final punch

Richard Williams in Montpellier sees the past meister head off a dashing challenge

IN THE battle of the World Cup's comeback specialists, the heavy metal edged out the light cavalry. After falling behind early in the second half to a goal from Mexico's talismanic centre-forward Luis Hernandez, a piece of characteristic opportunism from Jürgen Klinsmann and an Oliver Bierhoff header four minutes from time saw Germany safely into the quarter-finals.

Mexico bowed out on a day that could have been made in Acapulco. Under a hot sun in southern France the tournament lost one of its more likeable sub-plots but the Stade de la Mosson in Montpellier rewarded them with a warm ovation for a typically audacious attempt to reach the last eight for the third time.

Germany rumble on, maintaining their ability to squeeze out results despite generally unimpressive form. Once again the presence of the 37-year-old Lothar Matthäus was vital to their efforts to prevent the Mexicans from increasing their lead, while preparing the ground for their own counter-offensive.

Mexico had arrived in the second round with their international reputation on the rise, thanks to the enlightened regime of their new coach Manuel Lapuente. A 3–1 win over South Korea had done less to establish their new standing than a pair of hard-fought 2–2 draws against Belgium and Holland, in which they revealed a new cast of dashing forwards.

One of them, Cuauhtemoc Blanco, who wears boots painted in the colours of the Mexican flag, tried his hopping-with-the-ball trick as early as the first minute but suffered the fate of the old-time music hall comedians with the coming of television. Christian Wörns had been watching the videos and was wise to the impudent trick.

After 15 minutes a powerful drive by Marcelino Bernal from 25 yards caught Andreas Köpke unprepared. The ball bounced off the goalkeeper's chest but Markus Babbel cleared with Hernandez closing.

The early German attacks were generally laborious but occasionally came close to producing results. After 37 minutes Berti Vogts replaced Thomas Helmer with Christian Ziege and within seconds Jorge Campos was flying to his left to tip away Jörg Heinrich's 20-yard shot from Dietmar Hamann's neat square pass. The German pressure increased as Klinsmann fed Thomas Hässler, whose left-wing cross was met by Bierhoff with a powerful header which rocketed down off the bar to land a foot in front of the goalline.

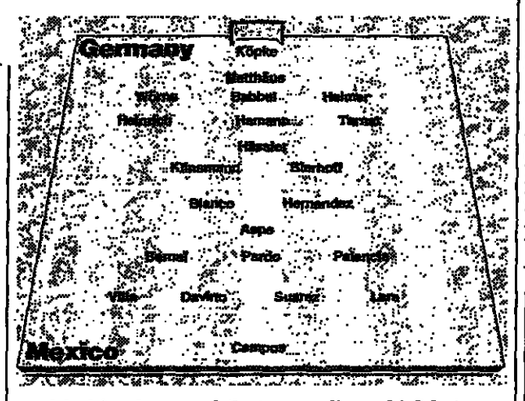
Mexico's best first-half chance fell to Francisco Palencia, who was through on Köpke after receiving Hernandez's return backheel but failed to beat the goalkeeper at the near post. A continuing jitteriness in Germany's defence was behind the booking of Babbel for tripping Blanco in first-half injury-time; yellow cards followed for Matthäus, Michael Tarnat and Hamann.

Blanco came out for the second half wearing a pair of normal black boots, which seemed to do the trick. Two minutes after the resumption he gave Hernandez a short pass across the area and watched as the blond striker dribbled past Babbel, Tarnat and Wörns before guiding a shot past Köpke from eight yards to give Mexico the lead.

They had shown they could pull back someone else's lead, but could they hang on to one of their own? Vogts brought on Andreas Möller to increase Germany's midfield guile but after 62 minutes Mexico almost increased their lead when Jesus Arellano, a substitute for Palencia, went through the entire German defence like an electric hare and struck a shot, deflected at source by Matthäus, which Köpke touched on to a post. The danger inherent in failing to make such chances count against Germany was emphasised when Bierhoff, with 27 goals in Serie A to his name this season, first shot, then headed wide from perfect positions, served by Hässler and Hamann.

After 74 minutes Hässler was withdrawn, replaced by Ulf Kirsten, but the big forward had barely crossed the touchline when his side drew level. Hamann's long free-kick from the right appeared to take a slight deflection before falling under the foot of the surprised Raul Lara, who unwittingly stunned the ball and in effect teed it up for the predatory Klinsmann, who hammered it past Campos from six yards.

A dozen minutes later Kirsten's first real contribution enabled Germany to take the lead. The beefcake boy from Bayer Leverkusen pivoted on the right wing and swung over a diagonal left-foot cross to find the head of Bierhoff, who beat Lara to the jump at the near post and nodded the ball past the heroic Campos. A coolly conclusive tackle by Matthäus on Ricardo Pelaez, an unlucky glancing header from Hernandez and Mexico were taking a deserved curtain-call.



SUBSTITUTIONS Germany: Ziege for Helmer, 38min; Möller for Heinrich, 66; Kirsten for Hässler, 74. Mexico: Carmona for Bernal, 46; Arellano for Palencia, 53; Pelaez for Aspe, 87.
BOOKED Germany: Babbel, Matthäus, Tarnat, Hamann. Mexico: Davino, Blanco.
REFEREE M M Pereira (Portugal).

Match stats

	Ger	Mex
Possession	50%	50%
Attempts on target	2	1
Attempts off target	8	4
Corners	1	5
Fouls	20	15
Offsides	1	1
Bookings	4	1

Second round: Romania v Croatia

Hopes high for Petrescu

ROMANIA are optimistic that Dan Petrescu, who missed training yesterday after damaging his right knee ligaments in Friday's draw with Tunisia, will be fit for this afternoon's second-round match with Croatia in Bordeaux.

The 30-year-old Chelsea wing-back confined himself to light running and stretching exercises yesterday. "There is some concern and we will have to wait and see," said Anghel Iordanescu, adding that there were also doubts about the striker Adrian Ilie, who has a muscle strain.

"Croatia are the team we wanted to face," the coach said. "We are familiar with their technical style; they are from the same region. Also their game is not unlike our own; it's very technical."

It will be Romania's first early-afternoon match of France 98, however, and they are concerned that the temperature may favour Croatia, who lost to Argentina on Friday afternoon in the same stadium. "I think the heat will play an important role," said the Coventry striker Viorel Moldovan. "It is up to us to show that we can cope."

Croatia's sweeper Zvonimir Soldo is suspended so Igor Stimac of Derby County will probably slot in at the back and Goran Vlaovic of Valencia, a playing substitute against Argentina, is also likely to start in place of the out-of-form Robert Prosinecki.

"We controlled Gabriel Batistuta and Ariel Ortega against Argentina and I think we will manage to do the same with Moldovan and Ilie," Everton's Slaven Bilic said.

ROMANIA (probable): Stelea; Petrescu, Ghaorghe Popescu, Filipescu, Ciuboiariu; Munteanu, Hagi, Galca, Gabriel Popescu; Moldovan, Ilie.
CROATIA (probable): Ladic; Stimac, Jarni, Bilic, Simic, Stanic; Maric, Asanovic, Boban; Vlaovic, Suker.

"THE SAMBA CAVALIERS ARE BEING RUN BY A BUNCH OF SHOE SALESMEN"



Sunday 1664 See Friday's paper

Sampson resigns as States coach after test of strength

STEVE SAMPSON of the United States yesterday became the fifth France 98 coach to seek alternative employment, resigning his post after his team's three straight defeats in Group F.

Alan Rothenberg, the United States Soccer Federation's president, said the search for a successor had begun and an announcement would be made soon.

The writing was on the wall for Sampson last week after some of his team selections and tactics were criticised by senior players. "We have not done what we should have done here," said Tab Ramos. "I blame the coach for that and have no problem in saying that." He added that he would never again play for the US if Sampson was the coach.

"Maybe there's a sense of frustration that international careers are ending and they need a scapegoat," retorted Sampson, who follows Cha Bum-Kun of South Korea, Carlos Alberto Parreira of Saudi Arabia and Henri Kasperczak of Tunisia, all sacked, as well as Bulgaria's Hristo Bonev who resigned.

Nigeria's Jay-Jay Okocha said yesterday that he would like to play in the Premiership. "I am thinking over several approaches from clubs in Spain, but what I would love is to play in England," the 24-year-old Fenerbahce midfielder said.

Golden goal

Christian Vieri (It)	5
Gabriel Batistuta (Arg)	4
Luis Hernandez (Mex)	4
Marcelo Salas (Chile)	4
Oliver Bierhoff (Ger)	3
Thierry Henry (Fr)	3
Jürgen Klinsmann (Ger)	3
Ronaldo (Braz)	3
Cesar Sampaio (Braz)	3

Michel Platini yesterday apologised for a Tannoy announcement at Saturday's Italy v Norway match which was directed at a small group of neo-Nazis who were shouting racist slogans. "Attention Italian fans," it said in Italian. "Don't behave like hooligans. If you do you will be treated like hooligans."

"The word 'hooligan' was certainly not the right one to use," said the World Cup Organising committee's president.

Brazil's captain Dunga will retire from international football after the World Cup. "A phase in my life is coming to an end. I hope I have left good memories," he said.

● The France 98 Internet site — http://www.france-98.com — has recorded more than a billion hits in little more than a year, accumulating a record 68 million on Friday alone.

It's been 12 long years.

But now for the Hand of Hod.

(Owen scores first, and England win 3-1, £20 pays £2520.)

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ENGLAND v ARGENTINA
Tonight, St Etienne. Kick-off 8.00pm. Live on ITV.
2/1 England 5/4 Argentina 15/8 Draw

First player to score	England to win 1-0	2-0	2-1	3-0	3-1
Owen	£580	£920	£920	£3020	£2520
Shearer	£580	£920	£920	£3020	£2520
Anderton	£1220	£2020	£2020	£5520	£5020
Beckham	£1220	£2020	£2020	£5520	£5020

First player to score	Argentina to win 1-0	2-0	2-1	3-0	3-1
Batistuta	£340	£580	£520	£1520	£1020
Ortega	£620	£1020	£920	£2520	£2020

Choose the player who'll score first. Choose the final score. See what you'll win for your £20* stake. Good luck!
*Winnings shown include the £20 you bet with maximum paid. Other prices on request. Over goals do not count for first player to score. Normal time only to count. Extra time, Golden goals and penalty shoot outs do not count.

CROATIA v ROMANIA
Today, Bordeaux. Kick-off 3.30pm. Live on BBC.
6/4 Croatia 13/8 Romania 15/8 Draw
Singles and upwards accepted. Normal time only to count. Extra time, Golden goals and penalty shoot outs do not count.

These prices may have changed since this newspaper went printed. For the very latest prices, page Ladbrokes Television 523 (ITV). Internet address: http://www.ladbrokes.co.uk
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0800 387 366

France 98

Weep and the world weeps without you. Gazza is gone but gushers and guzzlers are his hairs apparent

Roy Collins



AT THE last sighting the piss artist formerly known as Gazza was not bothering to watch England or the rest of the World Cup action while on holiday in Florida, taking more interest in the exploits of Michael Mouse than Michael Owen.

Whether or not Gazza can ever bring himself to reach for the TV remote control, assuming he can operate it, he should know that his spirit lives on among the players competing in France 98. They have adopted his habits so faithfully that in a World Cup that was supposed to be *sans* Gazza we in fact seem to have 704 of them.

Paul Gascoigne, with his little sob during the semi-final against Germany in Italia 90, made it fashionable for grown men to cry. Well, half-grown men. But at this, the most lachrymose World Cup in history, players are weeping more readily than a cupboard full of Tiny Tears dolls.

It's no longer enough to cry for Argentina. The players are crying for Chile, for Morocco, for Norway, *ad nauseam*. So much so that it might be time for Fifa to suggest that teams keep rolls of Kleenex on the touchline alongside the isotonic drinks.

The tiniest thing can set players blubbing uncontrollably. Tears of hurt, tears of joy, they are all the same to this lot. If the skipper so much as loses the toss, the corners of his team-mates' eyes start crinkling; a penalty or a free-kick on the edge of the box and the trainer really ought to be reaching for that Kleenex; a goal or a sending-off and there is so much weeping and wailing that they should have one of those squeegee machines they use for flooding on the outfields of cricket grounds.

When Spanish players went out despite a 6–1 thrashing of Bulgaria, there was enough water to keep the Trevi Fountain going for three days. And Paraguay's Celso Ayala gave it the full, kneeling-down, both-hands-over-the-face job after France scored their golden-goal winner on Sunday.

Gazza, like Martin Peters, was clearly ahead of his time since it is not just his crying which the World Cup stars are apeing. Remember when he used to change the colour and style of his hair for every match? Here there is more hair and colouring than Julian Dicks could ever dream of.

IF THERE were a competition for best, ie worst, effort the undoubted winner would be Nigeria's Taribo West, who sports a great green dreadlocked thing on the top of his head which looks like a poorly tended allotment. His team-mate Jay-Jay Okocha settled for an incongruous ginger rinse, perhaps out of sympathy for lost Spice.

The Romanians, of course, had to go right over the top, or at least on top, when their entire squad bleached their heads Scandinavian blond before the game against Tunisia, prematurely celebrating winning Group G.

The team looked like 11 David Beckhams and for much of the match were as unfocused as Glenn Hoddle has accused him of being, sneaking a late equaliser that won them the group by a hair's breadth, so to speak.

One suspected a similar plot might have taken place in the Chilean dressing-room when, the following day, their central defender Javier Margas ran out with a red hair-do which looked as though it had been topped up with dark-tan boot polish.

One fantasised of a Chilean team meeting the night before when the players all agreed: "Let's go one better than those Romanians. Let's all dye our hair red." Then they all turned up for breakfast, giggling, when they realised that Margas was the only mug who had fallen for it.

It's reassuring to know that strong drink almost certainly played its part in some of this nonsense. England may be a team of recovering alcoholics but there are plenty of players from other countries drinking Gazza's share.

The Bulgaria strikers Hristo Stoichkov and Lyuboslav Penev were fined for going out on the booze before the game against Spain. Along with their team-mates they were also seen smoking like chimneys in their hotel, which would definitely have won Gazza's approval.

Whether or not England's World Cup all ends in tear-gas it will certainly end in tears. Talking of which, whom should they be playing in St Etienne tonight but Argentina? Cue orchestra, cue Lloyd Webber score and on the count of three, all together now...

The moment of truth

Inside the boot camp

'Brujita' is ready to bewitch the English

Juan Veron hopes to sweep all before him. **Marcela Mora y Araujo** reports

FOR a while the Argentinian midfielder Juan Sebastian Veron was simply his father's son and, because his father was known as La Bruja Veron, the son was Brujita. The father got his nickname from his style: he was such a smooth sweeper that he conjured up images of a witch on a broom — and *bruja* means witch in Spanish. So Juan was the Little Witch.

He first played in the lower divisions of Estudiantes de La Plata, the same club where his father played most of his professional life, including an infamous Intercontinental Cup final against Manchester United when the South American club also enjoyed the lethal tactics of Carlos Bilardo on the field. Veron's current team-mate Claudio Lopez was in the same team then too.

Brujita's talent soon made him famous in his own right and he entered big-time football with Boca Juniors alongside Diego Maradona and under the management of Bilardo. Brujita became friends with Maradona and wears a golden Rolex which is a gift from his favourite player.

Then Cesar Menotti, Bilardo's arch-rival who was coaching in Sampdoria, bought Veron, making him one of the few players to have come under the influence of both men of such differing football philosophies. Argentina is said to be divided between Menottistas, who support the beautiful game, art and show, and Bilardistas, who go for tactics, strategy and more tactics. Wherever the national coach Daniel Passarella stands, Juan Veron appeals to all schools.

When the young midfielder reached Serie A he was not at once recognised as a superstar. There is little doubt that he is now. In his first year there he was voted best foreign player in the league. Now he has been transferred to Parma for £12 million.

He has warmed to the image. The 23-year-old drives a red Ferrari, from which the Rolling Stones blast forth. And he has recovered from the effects of his association with Maradona.

Passarella was sufficiently worried to drop him at one point and is rumoured to have had him followed in Italy until he was convinced Brujita was well-behaved. Only then was Veron restored to the squad and Passarella recently said: "He is one of the few players I would never consider dropping."

It possibly helped that he wears a ring with the inscription MC, his mother's initials, Maria Cristina. His respect for his parents apparently surpasses even his interest in girls and friendships with Maradona.

He calls his father Veron, not Dad, but his super-cool Italian shades and shaven head — all his own work — suggest a young man who knows his voyage into superstardom is only just beginning.

He is also very much a squad man and is sharing the war against Argentina's journalists which started two weeks ago when the players issued a communiqué announcing a boycott of one-to-one interviews. It was a protest against leaks of private exchanges which led to pages of gossip.

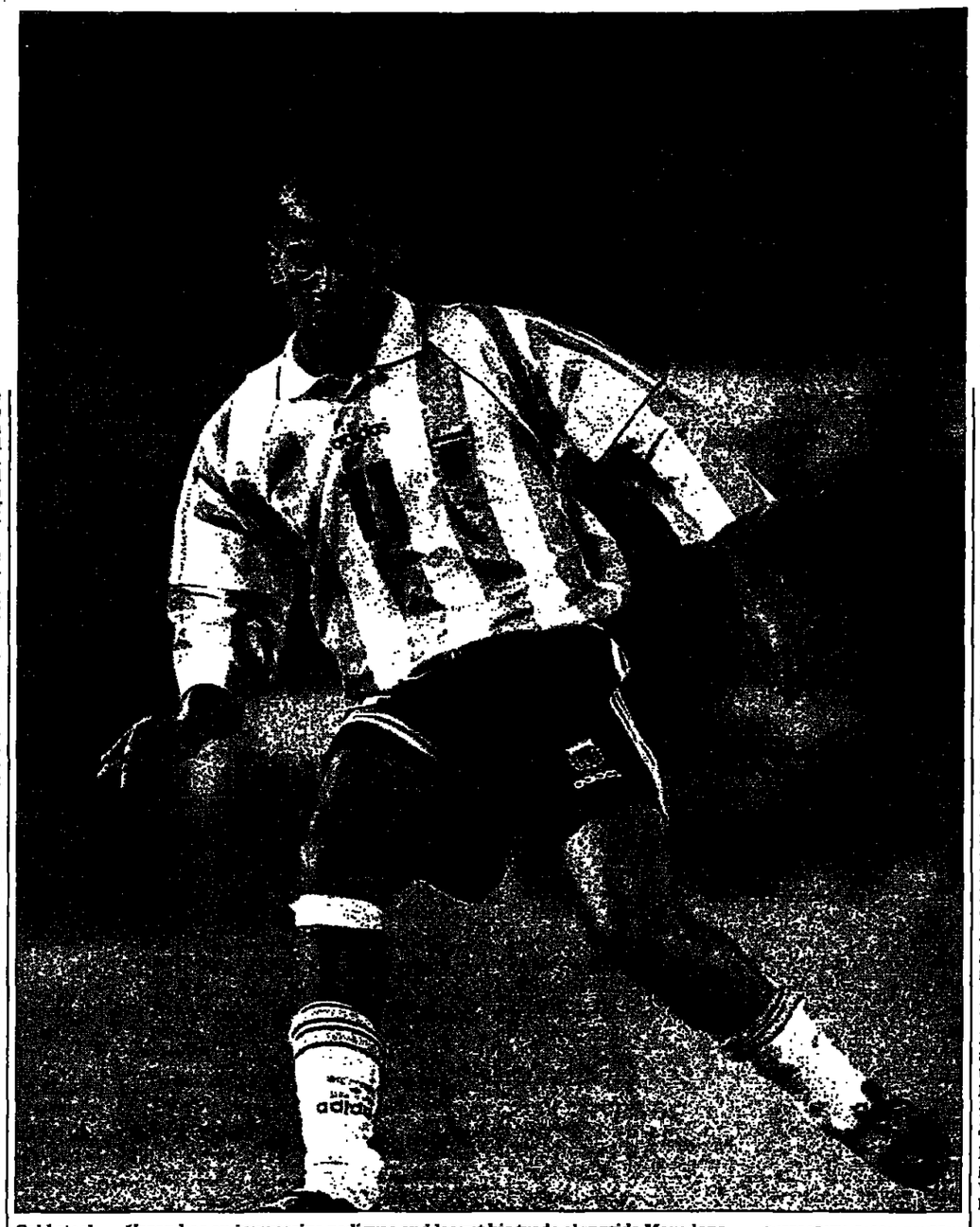
Passarella has warned the players: "If you lose they'll eat you alive." But even before tonight's match, with all its baggage of history, the players have not budged. They talked to the press sitting in a row of chairs from a stage.

Memories of 1986 loom in the minds of the journalists from both countries, but Veron, like most of his team-mates, was but a boy then. "I remember watching the game with my parents," he said, "and I can remember celebrating."

Others in the team cannot even remember that much. The goalkeeper Carlos Roa was fishing.

Gabriel Batistuta, one of the older members of the squad, said he does not regard this game as anything special. "I would love to score a goal, obviously, but not because it's England. I do not see connotations external to football."

Veron said: "England is a very strong team; not just the individual talents but collectively they are a strong team." So saying, these young, cocky, press-unfriendly bunch of kids will run out on the pitch tonight seemingly devoid of any anxiety caused by the dramatic history of encounters on and off the field between the countries.



Cold steel ... Veron has an impressive pedigree and learnt his trade alongside Maradona PHOTOGRAPH: PASCAL RONDEAU

Do they mean us? The foreign media surely do

Paul Kelso looks at what the papers are saying about Argentina versus England

THE eyes of the world are on England's meeting with Argentina tonight in what could be the tie of the tournament. Argentina have yet to concede a goal and are being tipped as possible winners of the trophy; England are the dark horses everyone has been hoping to avoid. But whatever the country, whatever the allegiance, everyone has an opinion.

The view from Brazil

Argentina are one of the best teams in the championship and they will be very tough opponents, mixing guts with harmony. Facing England wasn't in their plans, but apart from the goalkeeper Roa all their players are very skilful ... of the strikers Batistuta and Ortega there is little you need say.

The English on the other hand promised a lot but haven't accomplished much. People expected to see a change in English football, replacing the long-ball with a short-passing game. Michael Owen will be a threat now that he has finally got a chance to start a game.

Mesmerised by Romania's passing, England improved against Colombia, playing with grit and technique and letting tradition speak loudest. Although they have technical players — Ince, Beckham and Owen — the defence is suspect, and victory for them is totally unforeseeable in a match between these two former world champions.

O' Globo, Rio de Janeiro

The view from Germany

A poll asked readers who they thought would win the England-Argentina tie. Sixty per cent went for Argentina, 36 per cent for England, and four per cent forgot about golden goals and penalties and nominated the draw.

Berliner Morgenpost

The view from France

Bring on the Spice Girls! Some headlines from the Argentinian press on the eve of the meeting against England translate the animosity of many Argentinians, who are looking forward to this match as much for political reasons as for sporting ones, with the memory of the humiliating defeat against the British in the Falklands conflict of 1982.

Some Argentinians have put forward the theory that Argentina's President Menem, currently on an official visit to Moscow, may make a detour through France to lend his hand in the match. Unless, for security and diplomatic reasons, Mr Menem declines the opportunity to rub shoulders with Prince Charles in the official balcony.

Le Monde

The view from Spain

A classic football duel is building up: the English against the Argentinians. Passarella, the Argentina manager, has acknowledged the courage of the English: Hoddle has shown due respect for Argentinian reliability. The classic is primed and ready. No longer present are Rattin, nor Hurst, nor the shadow of Maradona. Argentina and England: tomorrow in St Etienne a new generation will have their say.

El Pais

England in the finals

1930 Uruguay. Did not enter.
1934 Italy. Did not enter.
1938 France. Did not enter.
1950 Brazil. Eliminated in first-round group.
1954 Switzerland. Lost 4–2 to Uruguay in quarter-finals.
1958 Sweden. Eliminated in first-round group.
1962 Chile. Lost 3–1 to Brazil in quarter-finals.
1966 England. Won World Cup, beating West Germany 4–2 in final.
1970 Mexico. Lost 3–2 to West Germany in quarter-finals.
1974 West Germany. Did not qualify.
1978 Argentina. Did not qualify.
1982 Spain. Eliminated in second-round group.
1986 Mexico. Lost 2–1 to Argentina in quarter-finals.
1990 Italy. Lost to Germany in semi-finals, 4–3 on pens after 1–1.
1994 USA. Did not qualify.

Sensini losing his battle to be fit to face England

ARGENTINA's Nestor Sensini is losing his battle to recover from a thigh strain in time to face England this evening. The Parma defender, who missed the 1–0 win against Croatia on Friday, was unable to train with the squad yesterday and worked out on his own.

Jose Chamot, who will replace Sensini if he does not make it, had to be restrained by police after a confrontation with an Argentinian journalist on Sunday. He reared up when giving an interview to a Spanish reporter, losing his cool when the Argentinian tried to join in. "I am going to kill you," he said.

It was not all bad news for the coach Daniel Passarella, though, as Internazionale's Javier Zanetti resumed full training.

Diego Simeone said that the squad were impressed with the form of Glenn Hoddle's side in the 2–0 win against Colombia.

"England showed they are a very complete team," he said. "They have one of the best squads in the World Cup with a lot of players who are capable of turning a game, particularly Beckham and Owen."

Gabriel Batistuta refused to see the game as a rematch of the 1986 quarter-final. "We've got to play whoever we get," he said. "None of us was around then. Let's hope all goes well. Any match is difficult."

The fan's eye view

Striking the right note as tensions rise

Vivek Chaudhary finds St Etienne braced for a clash of cultures off the field

IT HAS been hanging in the camper van since the start of the World Cup. Sky blue and white, the pennant reads "Argentina. France 98".

I have had a soft spot for Argentinian football ever since the 1978 World Cup, when as a child I became captivated by the team of the country. But now, common sense and personal safety tell me to take the pennant down. It is now in the glove compartment and I am in St Etienne. Arriving in this industrial city feels like arriving in a place that is about to be hit by a disaster. The locals know that something terrible may happen but, God willing, it might be averted.

There are two World Cups being played in France. The first involves the majority of teams taking part, where fans swap shirts, get drunk and party until the early hours of the morning. In the other World Cup, involving England and Germany, fans swap punches rather than shirts and hurl abuse followed by tables, chairs, bottles or anything else they can find. I feel as if I'm leaving one tournament to go and watch a game in another. St Etienne is not a pretty place.

It was once the centre of France's armament industry and the birth place of the country's railway system. The local population is made up of large numbers of immigrants from North Africa and Portugal. They have little to cheer about, least of all their team, once the powerhouse of French football where the great Michel Platini plied his trade.

St Etienne football club now languish in the French Second Division and last season were on the verge of being relegated to the amateur Third. In football terms, St Etienne are the equivalent of Manchester City.

Still, behind the fears of what could happen the World Cup is still smiling. In the Place Jean Juares groups of rival fans pose for press photographers. An England fan wearing a red Afro wig with a cross of St George on it throws his arm over a long-haired Argentinian fan.

"You're going home," says the Englishman. "*Si, si,*" replies the Argentinian. Fortunately they do not understand each other.

The square is surrounded by scores of French riot police, who look on nervously as Argentinian and English fans stand together to watch the Germany v Mexico match on a giant screen. Both sets of supporters cheer as the Mexicans score.

The last time I was in Place Jean Juares was after the Scotland v Morocco game, when both sets of fans danced together to the beat of Moroccan drummers. Somehow I can't imagine the English and Argentinians getting together after today's game to do the tango.

Rob, a Charlton Athletic fan, has also made the trip. I first met him in Marseille before England's first game. This is Rob's fourth World Cup following England. He has yet to see a game, apart from on television that is.

Standing under a row of trees in the Place Jean Juares, French and English touts are asking for up to £800 per ticket. Rob cries that he does not have that sort of money and anyhow he is already seriously out of pocket.

He bought six crates of beer in Marseille, hoping to sell them in St Etienne to cash in on the booze ban. But the bars remained open throughout the day and Rob has an awful lot of drinking to do.

The world's cheekiest tout is also in town. On one side he's holding a piece of cardboard reading "I need tickets." On the other side it says "Tickets for sale."

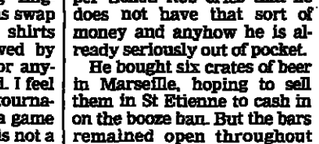
French television hasn't quite clocked on and is interviewing him as one of the hundreds of ticketless English fans to have travelled to St Etienne. Thousands more are on the way, says the reporter with an air of caution.

By the time they arrive St Etienne will be the centre of world football for a day. The England fans, no doubt, will sing about the 1982 Falklands war and the infamous Hand of God.

The Argentinian fans, who are already here but in smaller numbers, are also known for their fiery passion and when it comes to singing will give as good as they get.

At last Friday's game against Croatia in Bordeaux, thousands of Argentinians began jumping up and down in the stadium and chanted in Spanish, "*El que no salta es ingles.*" He that does not jump is an Englishman.

France 98 head-to-head



Gabriel Batistuta v Alan Shearer

Goal attempts		
Goals	4	1
Shots on target	5	9
Shots off target	7	0
Blocked shots	6	1
Passing		
Goal assists	0	0
Total passes	65	72
Pass completion	71%	82%
Crossing		
Total crosses	0	0
Cross completion	0%	0%
Dribbling		
Dribbles and runs	2	9
Dribble completion	0%	22%
Discipline		
Fouls	5	11
Offsides	5	1
Yellow cards	0	1
Red cards	0	0

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Cricket

County Championship: Warwickshire v Lancashire

Flintoff turns long chase into canter

Mike Selvey at Edgbaston

A GAME of contrivance was won at a canter by Lancashire. Asked to make 336 to win from 96 overs they paced their chase to perfection, with Ian Austin clumping a six into the pavilion to seal it with nine deliveries and four wickets in hand.

Lancashire had declared their first innings at 39 for no wicket from three ridiculous overs after Warwickshire's overnight 374, with their second innings forfeited, was deemed out of reach. The 18 points Lancashire take from the game gives them second place in the table but as they do not play another championship match until July 14, with just two one-day matches in the interim, that cannot last.

In effect this was a limited-overs match and Lancashire's was a team performance very much in that familiar idiom. A solid foundation to the chase came from Mike Atherton (31) and Nathan Wood, who put on 75 for the first wicket. Wood and John Crawley (34) added 64 for the second, and a third-wicket partnership of 45 between Wood and Neil Fairbrother ended when the left-handed Wood slogged a catch to mid-on having made 79 in two hours. All sound stuff but scarcely riveting.

The game did not come alive as a spectacle until after the tea interval, at which point Lancashire, at 190 for three, required 146 from what proved to be 30 overs. The impetus came from Fairbrother, batting with a runner because of a calf injury, and the young giant Andy Flintoff; they clattered 54 between them from the first seven overs after the break and took their fourth-wicket stand to 70 in 14 overs before Fairbrother, having made 54, hoicked Dougie Brown to deep midwicket.

The most telling contribution came from Flintoff, however, who cudgelled 70 from 95 balls, with eight fours and two sixes, each one struck with a withering power and solidly satisfying clump from the bat that might have been Botham at his meatiest. It was a sensible innings of selective hitting, at its most productive when Brown opted to bowl short of a length to him. Flintoff's bottom hand, he discovered, is like a steam hammer.

Brown gained revenge of a sort when Flintoff was caught at long-on with 16 runs needed, one of five wickets for the seamer although he soaked up punishment gamely to pay for them.



Driving force . . . Sussex's Michael Bevan plunders a four during his unbeaten 149 PHOTOGRAPH: DAVID MUNDEN

Middlesex v Essex

Irani is denied at last

Norman de Mesquita at Southgate

AFTER an enthralling day Middlesex had to settle for a draw when the last Essex pair hung on for the final four overs.

The captains' arrangement to forfeit their second innings meant that Essex were set to score 338 on the final day, and when they lost their captain Paul Prichard, Darren Robinson and Paul Grayson with only 31 on the board in the 20th over, Middlesex looked the likely winners.

Ronnie Irani had other ideas and, having scored his first century of the season to steer Essex to their first championship win in their previous match against Somerset at Bath, he prepared to duplicate that performance.

Well as he batted, he will find it difficult to forgive himself for the way he got out when the winning post was in sight. His century had come off 221 deliveries with three fours and a six and he had moved to 104 when he tried to reverse-sweep Paul Weekes and was bowled.

It was a sad end to an excellent innings, for most of which he played the secondary role while partnering Stephen Peters and Danny Law. Peters, whose 58 not out had helped to eliminate Middlesex from the Benson & Hedges Cup, struck eight boundaries in his 59, then Law took the Middlesex spin attack by the scruff, hitting Weekes for four sixes and Phil Tufnell for a fifth while making 62 off 63 deliveries.

When Law was brilliantly caught by Weekes off Tufnell at deep midwicket, Essex were 290 for seven in the fifth of the final 16 overs. Irani took over the lead role only to lose Ashley Cowan with Essex still 24 short.

Next ball, Irani's rush of blood brought about his demise and it was left to Mark Ilott and Peter Such to block out the remaining overs as Middlesex clustered around the bat.

Middlesex might have won easily had Irani not survived a stumping chance when he was on 28, and he might have been caught at mid-on when he had 79. Apart from those lapses Middlesex played positive cricket. Only a few spectators were there but there is no doubt that bringing back first-class cricket to Southgate has been a success.

Somerset v Hampshire

Hampshire bonus is only point of the exercise

David Foot at Taunton

IN the early years of this century when he lived at Bridgwater and hitched, if he was lucky, a farmwagon lift to the County Ground, Somerset's gregarious bachelor all-rounder Sammy Woods, always the last to leave the bar after the day's play, was apt to ponder the long walk home and say with an unconvincing Australian grin: "Is it worth it?"

The question seemed more valid yesterday when, after an often meaningless match, Hampshire eventually went out after the rain, at 3pm, to continue their first innings and play for nothing more than nominal bonus points.

It was hard to spot a spectator around the ground and for the fifth-wicket partnership of Adrian Aymes and Kevan James it must have been like a competent, untaxing performance to an empty theatre. The boundaries went unapplauded, the scorecards unsold. Hampshire reached 350 and declared.

Could this really be county cricket in the late Nineties? Here was professional sport in a seemingly pointless vacuum, just as well played out on a computer. The County Ground had the atmosphere of a morgue; it was a confrontation devoid of any semblance of competition.

In just under 2½ hours Hampshire lost three wickets. Paul Whitaker was caught in the gully and, at the same score, Robin Smith was taken at short-leg off Adrian Pierson who his return to the side after injury, was given a long spell on a pitch which embraced his off-spinners a good deal less than expected.

Dimitri Mascarenhas, who has established himself this summer and wormed his way up the order on merit, was next to go. He heaved with unnecessary levity at Pierson and Marcus Trescothick threw himself forward at short-leg for a second catch.

After that, Aymes and James steered Hampshire to the next batting point with ghostlike efficiency. This has been an admirable season for Aymes: he is keeping wicket as well as anyone around, even if fate — and the Test selectors — have chosen to pass him by.

His unshowy skills are warmly regarded by his fellow players and, at rainy Taunton, his undefeated 41, with five fours, boosted an already impressive batting average for his county.

Might Hampshire, in this modest year of theirs, do worse than experiment by sending him in higher up the order? As a Southampton devotee commented: "When he's set, he is nearly as difficult to dislodge as Philip Mead." Praise indeed, if a little excessive.

County table

	P	W	L	D	Bt	Bl	Pts
Surrey (6)	8	4	1	3	24	29	125
Lancs (11)	8	4	1	3	11	24	108
Somerset (18)	8	3	2	3	15	28	100
Durham (17)	8	3	2	3	15	31	100
Leics (10)	8	3	3	2	10	19	98
Yorks (6)	7	3	2	2	15	28	95
Kent (2)	8	3	3	2	7	27	97
Sussex (7)	7	3	3	1	9	27	87
Glams (1)	8	2	3	3	16	26	85
Worcs (3)	7	2	1	4	16	27	81
Middx (4)	7	2	2	4	16	19	75
Hants (14)	8	2	3	4	11	23	73
Warks (4)	7	2	3	2	1	14	75
Essex (12)	8	2	3	3	4	22	74
Derbys (16)	8	2	3	3	2	15	71
Notts (8)	7	2	3	2	1	14	71
Hants (13)	8	1	3	4	1	19	63
Northants (15)	8	0	5	3	2	15	47
	7	1	5	1	2	16	39
	7	1	6	0	2	16	38
	8	1	5	2	6	12	80

1997 positions in brackets

Leicestershire v Sussex

Bevan buoys struggling Sussex

Andy Wilson at Grace Road

IF ONE wants entertainment on the last day of a championship match, Leicester is not the place to come. This was the fourth draw in as many games here this summer, each of Leicestershire's three victories having come on their travels. As an exercise in pointlessness it would be hard to beat.

After the rain had relented to allow a full day on Sunday there seemed some chance of a meaningful finish, with Sussex 56 for four and still needing 84 to avoid the follow-on. However, those four wickets served only to undermine the captains' attempts to negotiate a second-innings target for Sussex. Leicestershire offered them 280, Sussex were not prepared to go any higher than 250, and neither Chris Lewis nor Chris Adams would budge.

So Michael Bevan and Neil Taylor resumed the Sussex first innings and removed Leicestershire's last hope, taking the total to within eight of the follow-on figure before Taylor was caught behind off David Millns.

The former Kent man had just marked his return from a knee injury with his first championship half-century of the season.

To their immense credit Leicestershire resisted the temptation to throw their toys out of the pram in protest, and persisted with proper bowlers throughout the day.

Lewis generated a fair head of steam down the slope to dismiss Paul Jarvis and Shaun Humphries in consecutive overs after lunch, but the follow-on had long been averted, and Bevan found obdurate support from James Kirtley in an eighth-wicket partnership of 118 in 34 overs.

Kirtley's 27 in over two hours was a career best, and Bevan ended unbeaten on 149, his second century for Sussex.

The Australian batted beautifully, chanceless bar an edge between wicketkeeper and slip — or sleeper and kip, according to an appropriate spoonerism — which brought up three figures. But it met only with half-hearted applause from a couple of Leicestershire fielders.

Their coach Jack Birkenshaw summed up Leicestershire's disappointment. "We wanted to set up a game but they only wanted to chase 230 and we're not a charity," he said.

"There were only about a dozen people here at the end and next time it's going to be more like two."

But after their disastrous 1997 Sussex will probably be happy enough to end this game, having doubled their lead in the table over Leicestershire and climbed to third, by winning 10–9 on points, although both were leapfrogged by Lancashire.

Football

Blackburn beat United for defender

Noam Friedlander

BLACKBURN took their summer spending to more than £10 million with the £3 million signing of the French defender Sébastien Perez from Bastia. The 24-year-old, who signed a five-year contract, was also wanted by Manchester United, Marseille and Milan.

Tottenham's manager Christian Gross completed his first buy of the summer by signing the Italian left-back Paolo Tramezzani for £1.35 million from Piacenza yesterday. The 23-year-old, formerly of Internazionale, Luciese and Cessana, has played more than 100 games in Serie A.

Liverpool's manager Roy Evans hopes to complete the signings of Aston Villa's Steve Staunton and Lens's Eric Sikora to bolster his defence next season. For Staunton, 29, this would be a return to Anfield. He is currently out of contract but Evans will have to compete with Marseille and Stuttgart for the French full-back Sikora.

Sunderland's manager Peter Reid is on the verge of signing a new contract to keep him there for the next five years. He is on the shortlist for the Everton job but said: "Sunderland are my kind of club and I have a good relationship with the directors."

Tommy Svensson, the former coach of Sweden, has become the latest manager to turn down the vacant position at Celtic. Though the Scottish champions offered about £250,000 a year he plans to accept an advisory post with Sweden's Football Association. "I don't see the right motivation to move abroad," he said.

Rangers' manager Dick Advocaat hopes to sign the France striker Christophe Dugarry to replace the unsettled Italian forward Marco Negri next season. But Marseille are determined to keep Dugarry in France.

The former Manchester United and England striker Jack Rowley died yesterday aged 79. Capped six times by England, he scored twice in United's FA Cup 4-2 victory over Blackpool in 1948 and hit 30 goals during their 1951–52 championship-winning season.

Archer fires in vain as champions contrive to win

GRAEME ARCHER battled to his first century since September 1996 but it was not enough to take Nottinghamshire off the foot of the county table as the champions Glamorgan won in a contrived but exciting finish yesterday at Trent Bridge.

The home side, set 321 to win, fell 46 runs short when Archer was last man out for a 3½-hour 107 containing two sixes and 12 fours. After starting the run chase disastrously to be 17 for two, Notts got back on track thanks to a solid fifty from Usman Afzaal and some big hits from the captain Paul Johnson, who flogged seven fours in a 35-ball 40.

Archer pressed the attack but effectively ran out of partners when he called for a single that was too sharp for Kevin Evans.

Darren Gough, who injured his finger batting for England in the first Test, returned to the crease for 55 minutes and made 21 yesterday as Yorkshire were forced to dig in for a draw against Cambridge University in an inevitably contrived finale at rainy Headingley.

Set 273 to win by the students after lunch, Yorkshire slumped to 73 for five as the New Zealander Greg Loveridge took four cheap wickets with his leg-spin.

● Worcestershire have awarded a benefit next year to the former England batsman Graeme Hick, who was county-capped in 1986.

Scoreboard

Britannic Assurance County Championship

(Final day)

WARWICKSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

Edgbaston: Lancashire (18pts) beat Warwickshire (4) by four wickets.

WARWICKSHIRE

First Innings

D R Brown not out 51
†K J Piper not out 5
Extras (b4, lb10, nb4) 18

Total (for 5 dec, 104 overs) 374

Did not bat G Welch, N M K Smith, A F Giles, E S H Giddins.

Bowlings Martin 21–4–59–0; Chapple 21–3–74–3; Austin 21–2–52–0; Green 14–3–53–0; Watkinson 25–1–100–1; Flintoff 2–0–12–0.

LANCASHIRE

First Innings

N Wood not out 14
I D Austin not out 22
Extras (nb2) 2

Total (for 0 dec, 3.5 overs) 39

Did not bat M A Atherton, J P Crawley, N H Fairbrother, A Flintoff, G D Lloyd, R J Green, G Chapple, M Watkinson, P J Martin.

Bowlings Lara 2–0–24–0; Knight 1.5–0–15–0.

WARWICKSHIRE Second Innings forfeited.

LANCASHIRE

Second Innings

N Wood c Sub b Giles 79
M A Atherton lbw b Brown 31
*†J P Crawley c Piper b Brown 34
N H Fairbrother c Hemp b Brown 54
A Flintoff c Giles b Brown 70
G D Lloyd c Piper b Brown 30
I D Austin not out 12
M Watkinson not out 5
Extras (b4, lb7, w2, nb10) 23

Total (for 6, 94.3 overs) 338

Fall of wickets 75, 139, 184, 254, 318, 320.

Bowlings Giddins 13–2–53–0; Welch 11–2–50–0; Brown 27.3–5–125–5; Smith 13–3–31–0; Giles 30–8–68–1.

Umpires D R Shepherd and G Sharp.

SOMERSET v HAMPSHIRE

Taunton: Somerset (9pts) drew with Hampshire (11).

SOMERSET: First innings 378 (P D Bowler 104, M N Lathwell 75, K A Parsons 58; Mascarenhas 4–65).

HAMPSHIRE

First Innings (overnight: 258–2)

P R Whitaker c Pierson b Caddick 72
*†R A Smith c Trescothick b Pierson 27
†A N Aymes not out 41
A D Mascarenhas c Trescothick b Pierson 3
K D James not out 22
Extras (lb8, nb15) 23

Total (for 5, 108.3 overs) 350

Fall of wickets each 201, 231, 257.

Did not bat M Keech, S D Udal, A C Morris, N A M McLean.

Bowlings Mushtaq 20–6–57–1; Pierson 31–9–80–2; Caddick 24–4–61–1; Rose 16.3–6–58–0; Parsons 7–0–25–1; Trescothick 9–3–25–0; Bowler 3–1–4–0.

Umpires D J Constant and J W Holder.

LEICESTERSHIRE v SUSSEX

Leicester: Leicestershire (9pts) drew with Sussex (10).

LEICESTERSHIRE: First innings 289 (C C Lewis 83; Kirtley 5–83).

SUSSEX

First Innings (overnight: 58–4)

M G Bevan not out 149
N R Taylor c Nixon b Millns 51
P W Jarvis c Nixon b Lewis 12
†S Humphries b Lewis 0
R J Kirtley c Sutcliffe b Millns 27
J D Lewry c Mullally b Brimson 4
M A Robinson st Nixon b Brimson 0
Extras (b4, lb5, nb22) 31

Total (98 overs) 302

Fall of wickets each 132, 168, 168, 286, 289.

Bowlings Mullally 26–11–56–1; Millns 25–8–58–4; Brimson 20–5–72–2; Wells 11–1–48–1; Lewis 12–4–49–2.

LEICESTERSHIRE

Second Innings

V J Wells not out 6
D L Maddy lbw b Lewry 0
I J Sutcliffe not out 0
Extras 0

Total (for 1, 3 overs) 6

Fall of wicket: 2.

Bowlings Kirtley 2–0–6–0; Lewry 1–1–0–1.

Umpires J Balderstone and K Palmer.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v GLAMORGAN

Trent Bridge: Glamorgan (20pts) beat Nottinghamshire (3) by 46 runs.

GLAMORGAN: First innings 351–8 dec (S P James 121, R D B Croft 63 no).

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First innings 31–2 dec.

GLAMORGAN: Second innings forfeited.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Second Innings

M P Dowman c Shaw b Parkin 10
J E R Gallian lbw b Watkin 3
U Afzaal lbw b Dale 51
R T Robinson c Maynard b Thomas 12
*P Johnson c James b Parkin 40
G F Archer c Croft b Thomas 107
C M Tolley c Shaw b Thomas 1
†C M W Read c Cottey b Thomas 14
K P Evans run out 1
M N Bowen c Cottey b Parkin 14
A R Oram not out 0
Extras (b8, lb1, w4, nb8) 21

Total (88 overs) 274

Fall of wickets: 3, 17, 57, 103, 155, 161, 216, 224, 264.

Bowlings Watkin 18–4–63–1; Parkin 21–8–60–2; Butcher 8–0–37–0; Thomas 20–4–78–4; Dale 8–1–22–1; Croft 13–4–25–0.

Umpires P Willey and J W Lloyds.

● A hat-trick of matches in the Independence Cup at Galle in southern Sri Lanka have been called off because of rain. The latest victim was the game between India and New Zealand, which was abandoned without a ball being bowled after an overnight downpour. Two earlier matches, between Sri Lanka and New Zealand and Sri Lanka and India, also fell foul of the weather. A fourth match in Colombo, between New Zealand and India, was abandoned because of rain four balls short of the required amount of play for a result to be determined on a run-rate basis. The three teams are to play a match each in Colombo before the two finalists can be selected.

Other matches

Canterbury: Kent 291–6 dec (J B Thompson 65no, S C Willis 58) and 57–2 dec. Oxford University 108–4 dec and 241–7 (M A Wagh 125, Patel 4–81). Oxford University won by three wickets.

Hemel Hempstead: Cambridge University 366 (Imraan Mohammed 136, W J House 61) and second innings forfeited. Yorkshire 94–1 dec (A McGrath 51no) and 131–6 (J Loveridge 4–47). Match drawn.

AON Trophy

Northampton: Minor Counties 122 (Swann 4–33). Northamptonshire 123–1 (G P Swann 71no, D Ripley 44no). Northants won by nine wickets.

Southampton: Hampshire 169–9 (43 overs). Worcestershire 117–1 (A Hatesz 64no). Worcestershire won on the fastest scoring rate.

Starting today

AXA LEAGUE (one day): Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Lancashire (floodlit).

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP (11.0; four days): Harrogate: Yorkshire v Worcestershire. Northampton: Northamptonshire v Warwickshire.

AON TROPHY (11.0; one day): Chelmsford: Essex v Somerset. Fenner's: Nottinghamshire v Durham. The Oval: Surrey v Kent.

Minor Counties Championship

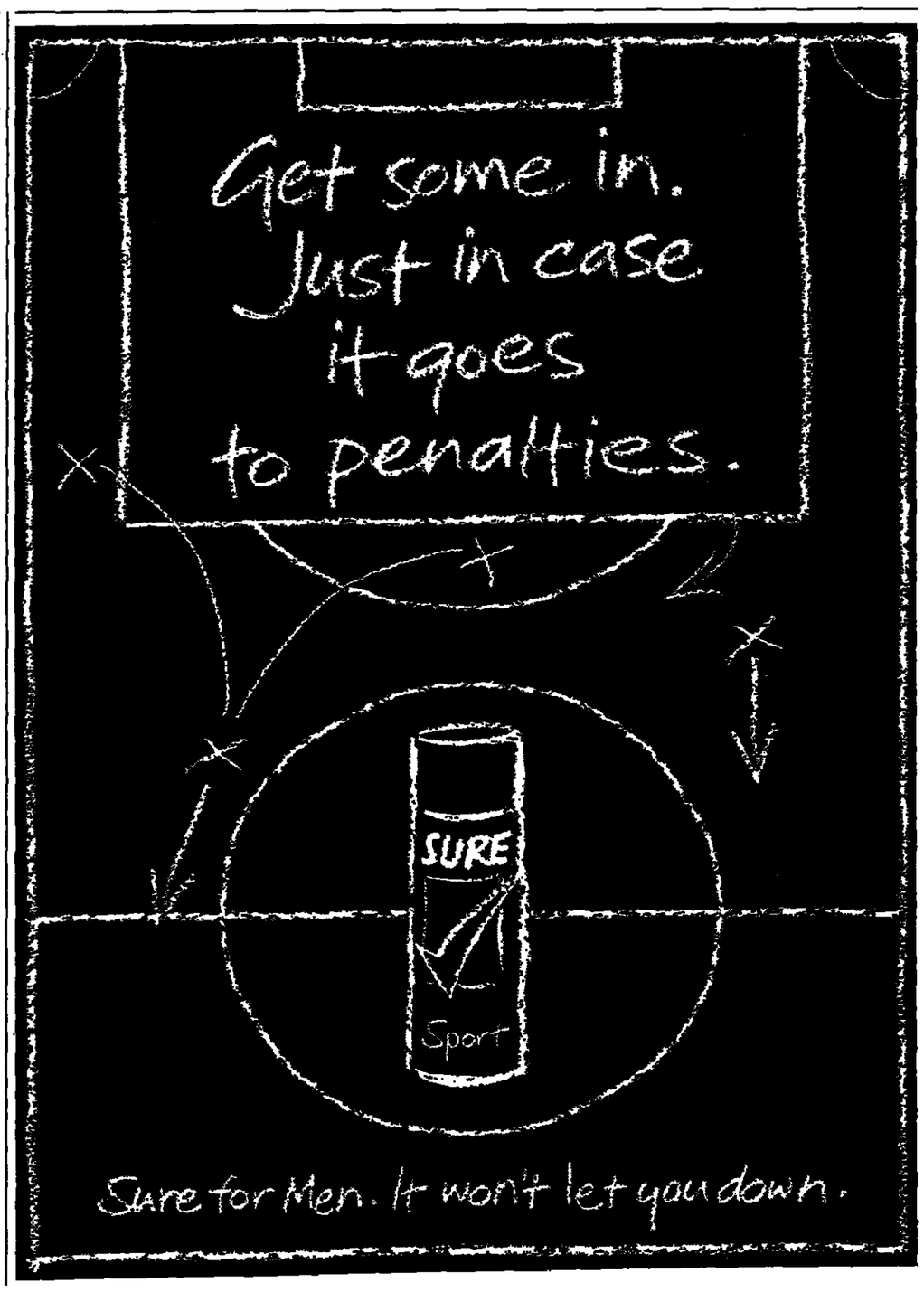
Oxford: Herefordshire 224. Devon 303–2 (N R Gaywood 136, G T J Townsend 119). Devon (18pts) beat Hereford (2) on first innings.

Second XI Championship

Bristol: Somerset 308–6 (M Burns 147, J I D Kerr 58) v Gloucester.

Independence Cup

Galle, Sri Lanka: India v New Zealand. Match abandoned, rain, 1pt awarded to each side.



Wimbledon 98





Worry-beads . . . a concerned Serena Williams receives attention to her leg before retiring hurt against Virginia Ruano-Pascual, who plays Venus Williams, right, today in the fourth round

PHOTOGRAPHS: MIKE STEPHENS/ANJA NIEDRINGHAUS

Serena can help sister avoid the slip-ups

Richard Jago on how family ties may break the nerve of a confident Spaniard

VENUS and Serena Williams will be trading tips today, not top-spin. Instead of becoming the first siblings for 32 years to compete against each other at Wimbledon, Serena will be helping her elder sister to beat the Spaniard Virginia Ruano-Pascual.

Serena retired injured against the same opponent yesterday after she had lost the first set 7–5. With her confidence about moving safely on the slick grass undermined, she was 4–1 down in the second, apparently so preoccupied with her strapped left calf that she forgot to shake hands with her rival.

Her decision to withdraw was not entirely surprising, even though she had at no time appeared to be severely hindered by the muscle strain. It is, after all, only two weeks since the 16-year-old competed for the first time on this most unpredictable and unsettling of surfaces.

The movements required to cope with lower, more varied bounces and swirling trajectories were so unfamiliar that Serena ended the week at Eastbourne like a survivor from the Somme, with an ankle taped, a thigh bandaged and her expression wan-wounded. "I don't like falling," the heavily built American admitted then. Yesterday she phrased it differently: "It was just a little of those slipping blues," she said.

Venus, having endured a two-hour rain delay in the middle of her third-round match against her fellow American Chanda Rubin before winning 6–3, 6–4, talked of her relationship with Serena and was keen to underline that "we are two separate people".

"We have different hearts and different minds and sometimes different motives," she added after beating Rubin, a former top-10 player who looks as though she is beginning to recover after two years in the doldrums.

Venus declined to elaborate, leaving behind a sense of enigma about the state of play between her and Serena. Certainly there are problems surrounding their phone calls. When their father Richard rang before their match in Rome they argued over who should take it. In the end Serena, insisting "It's your turn", answered it anyway.

Serena, who also predicted that "in the future I see myself as one of the champions", could influence the immediate future by warning Venus not to underestimate Ruano-Pascual, who looked impressively comfortable from the baseline and at the net on a surface with which she is relatively unfamiliar.

Jana Novotna is anything but unfamiliar with it. Last year's runner-up played through three rain delays to beat Corina Morariu, an American of Romanian parentage, and is the likely obstacle if Williams wins again.

Few greater tests could there be of the 18-year-old Venus's assertion that "I am at the point now where I can do this", or Martina Hingis's statement that the Californian, although No. 6 in the world, is really her nearest rival.

There are signs too that Novotna, so often branded a choker, has acquired an improved equilibrium. "I woke up and after the first rain delay I suddenly got so tired," she said. "I was just not feeling pretty well, and I guess I was getting a little depressed about it.

"I said to myself, 'My God, all that I did for the last couple of days was practise for half an hour,' and after that I started to enjoy myself and I played a wonderful match." She did, winning 6–3, 6–1. If Novotna is winning the inner battle, hers are the weapons with which to win the outer one.

Yesterday's results

Men's Singles

Holder: P Sampras (US, 1)

Third round

(Seeds in capitals)

T Martin (US) bt T A Woodbridge (Aus) 6–4, 4–6, 7–6, 6–4; **P SAMPRAS** (US, 1) bt T Enqvist (Swe) 6–3, 7–6, 7–6; **S Grosjean** (Fr) bt F MANTILLA (Sp, 16) 6–0, 7–6, 6–2; **F Clavet** (Sp) bt T Johansson (Swe) 7–6, 6–3, 6–3; **G IVANISEVIC** (Cro, 14) bt D Vacek (Cz) 6–7, 7–6, 6–3, 6–4; **D Sanguinetti** (It) bt V Voltchkov (Bela) 3–6, 6–1, 5–7, 6–2, 6–1; **M KRAJICEK** (Neth, 9) bt N Kiefer (Ger) 6–4, 7–6, 7–6.

Fourth round

T HENMAN (GB, 12) bt P RAFTER (Aus, 8) 6–3, 5–7, 6–3, 6–2

Men's Doubles

First round

J Ginsteitob/B MacPhie (US) bt B Black/R A Reneberg (Zim/US) 6–1, 6–4; **T A WOODBRIDGE/M WOODFORDE** (Aus, 2) bt J Burillo/T Carbonell (Sp) 6–1, 6–4; **D JOHNSON/F MONTANA** (US, 5) bt D E Sapsford/C Wilkinson (GBr) 6–7, 6–3, 6–3; **T Martin/A O'Brien** (US) bt M Tebbutt/P Tramacchi (Aus) 7–6, 7–6; **Y KAFELNIKOV/D VACEK** (Rus/Cz, 7) bt N Gould/M R J Petchey (GB) 6–3, 6–0.

Second round

N KULTI/D MACPHERSON (Swe/Aus, 10) bt A Kitinov/P Vizner (Mac/Cz) 7–6, 6–1; **M KNOWLES/D NESTOR** (Bah/Can, 11) bt W Arthurs/A Kratzmann (Aus) 6–3, 6–3; **W BLACK/S LAREAU** (Zim/Can, 12) bt L Milligan/A Parmar (GB) 6–2, 6–3; **C Haggard/P Rosner** (SA) bt N Godwin/T Ketola (SA/Fin) 6–3, 7–6; **S STOLLE/C SUK** (Aus/Cz, 16) bt D Flach/G Van Emburgh (US) 2–6, 7–6, 6–6; **J ELTINGH/P HAARHUIS** (Neth, 1) bt J Siemerink/F Wiber (Neth) 6–4, 6–2; **N BROAD/P NORVAL** (GB/SA, 14) bt K Braasch/J Kolpachchi (Ger) 6–3, 4–6, 9–7; **P GALBRAITH/B STEVEN** (US/NZ, 9) bt N Marquess/T Vanhoudt (Por/Bel) 6–3, 7–6; **E FERREIRA/R LEACH** (SA/US, 4) bt F Albano/N Lapentti (Arg/Ecu) 6–7, 6–3, 6–3; **J L De Jager/R Koenig** (SA) bt M K GOELLNER/D PRINOSIL (Ger, 15) 7–6, 4–6, 8–3; **M DAMM/J GRABB** (Cz/US, 6) bt J Holmes/A Painter (Aus) 6–4, 7–6.

Women's Singles

Holder: M Hingis (Switz)

Third round

V Ruano Pascual (Sp) bt S Williams (US) 7–5, 4–1 ret; **D VAN ROOST** (Bel, 15) bt S Appelmans (Bel) 6–1, 6–2; **A SANCHEZ VICARIO** (Sp, 5) bt S Pitschke (Aut) 7–5, 6–2; **J NOVOTNA** (Cz, 3) bt C Morariu (US) 6–3, 6–1; **V WILLIAMS** (US, 7) bt C Rubin (US) 6–3, 6–4; **I SPIRLEA** (Rom, 10) bt S De Beer (SA) 6–4, 6–4.

Fourth round

N TAUZIAT (Fr, 16) bt S Smith (GB) 6–3, 6–1; **M Zvereva** (Bela) bt M Oremans (Neth) 6–4, 6–2; **L A DAVENPORT** (US, 2) bt M Sema (Sp) 6–1, 6–0; **M SELES** (US, 6) bt S TESTUD (Fr, 14) 6–3, 6–2.

Women's Doubles

First round

M Drakes/L Gotlieb (Can/US) bt Y J Cho/S H Park (Kor) 6–2, 7–5; **K M ADAMS/M M BOLLEGRAF** (US/Neth, 8) bt D J Jones/K Po (Aus/US) 6–7, 6–2, 6–6; **E LIKHOVTSEVA/A SUGIYAMA** (Rus/Japan, 10) bt J M Pullin/L A Woodroffe (GB) 6–3, 6–2; **E S N Callens/J Halard-Decugis** (Bel/Fr) bt A Ellwood/N J Pratt (Aus) 6–4, 6–2; **K Kschwendt/E Tatarkova** (Aut/Ukr) bt C Singer/H Vildova (Ger/Cz) 6–4, 6–2; **E Kisa/M Seeld** (Kor/Japan) bt T Musgrave/A Olsza (Aus/Pol) 6–0, 4–6, 6–4; **Y BASUKI/C M VIS** (Indo/Neth, 6) bt C Black/I Selyutina (Zim/Kaz) 6–2, 5–7, 7–5; **O Barabanschikova/E R De Lone** (Bela/US) bt **C MARTINEZ/P TARABINI** (Sp/Arg, 9) 2–6, 6–4, 6–3; **M Grzybowska/T Tanasugarn** (Pol/Thai) bt J Husarova/B Rittner (Slovak/Ger) 6–2, 7–5; **A SANCHEZ VICARIO/N SUKOVA** (Sp/Cz, 3) bt C Cristea/E Makharova (Rom/Cz) 7–6, 6–2; **F LABAT/D VAN ROOST** (Arg/Bel, 15) bt S Krivencheva/L. Fleming (Bul/Aus) 6–1, 7–5; **V RUANO PASCUAL/P SUAREZ** (Sp/Arg, 16) bt A G Sidot/E Wagner (Fr/Ger) 6–4, 4–6, 6–4; **N KIJIMUTA/N SEIYAGI** (Japan, 11) bt S Williams/V Williams (US) w/o; **M HINGIS/J NOVOTNA** (Switz/Cz, 1) bt S De Beer/L. Lee (SA/SA) 6–1, 6–1; **K Kasse/C Morariu** (Aus/US) bt K Boogert/R McQuillan (Neth/Aus) 3–6, 6–1, 7–5.

Second round

M DE SWARDT/D A GRAHAM (SA/US, 17) bt J Lee/S T Wang (Taip) 6–0, 6–2; **L M RAYMOND/R P STUBBS** (US/Aus, 7) bt N De Villiers/L. McShea (SA/Aus) 7–6, 6–3

Mixed Doubles

First round

G Kovacs/B Schett (Hun/Aut) bt D Randall/H Vildova (US/Cz) 6–1, 5–7, 6–0; **J Tarasgor/E Likhovtseva** (US/Rus) bt P Nyborg/L. Horn (Swe/SA) 6–2, 7–5; **L PAES/L. NEILAND** (India/Lat.), bt T Kempers/K Habsudova (Neth/Slovak) 6–4, 6–3; **M SHUPATHE/M LUCIC** (India/Cro, 5) bt D Dilucia/S H Park (US/Kor) 7–5, 5–6, 6–3; **P HAARHUIS/C M VIS** (Neth, 2) bt B Talbot/E S H Galtens (SA/Bel) 6–7, 6–7, 6–3, **P Kilderry/A Ellwood** (Aus) bt A Florent/L. Fleming (Aus) 3–6, 6–2, 6–2; **M Arthurs/K A Guse** (Aus) bt **R LEACH/M M BOLLEGRAF** (US/Neth, 3) 7–6, 6–4



Pistol Pete primed . . . Sampras on his way to his straight-sets win yesterday FIONA HANSON

Sampras still smiling after three days in the locker-room

IT TOOK Pete Sampras three days to beat the world No. 17 Thomas Enqvist, give or take the odd rain break since Friday, but the champion has yet to drop a set at Wimbledon 98 and played the percentages yesterday to take both the sets he needed on tie-breaks. *writes Chris Curtain.*

Centre Court saw the world No. 1 close out Sweden's Davis Cup stalwart 6–3, 7–6, 7–6 to move into the fourth round. Sampras now faces the 20-year-old Frenchman Sébastien Grosjean, a surprise straight-sets winner over the No. 16 seed, the Spanish clay-court exponent Felix Mantilla.

"It was a long, long weekend," said the American with four Wimbledon singles triumphs and 10 Grand Slam titles in all, though none since this time last year. "The rhythm is there and I'm serving well and that is really the key to playing well on grass."

And what does one do in the SW19 rain? "You just hang out in the locker-room," Sampras replied with a suspicion of irony. "It is an emotional roller-coaster.

"You get up for playing and you come off and you have a 20-minute delay. You come back, play a game, you have yesterday off, which was kind of bizarre. But it's part of Wimbledon, it's part of the aura about this place."

The Dutchman Richard Krajicek also took the tie-break route into the fourth round with a 6–4, 7–6, 7–6 win over Nicolas Kiefer, the 20-year-old German No. 1.

Todd beat Todd as half of the Two Woodies left the singles, the American Martin ousting the Australian Woodbridge 6–4, 4–6, 7–6, 6–4. But it was business as usual in the unusually three-set doubles when Woodbridge and Mark Woodforde — the ginger-haired one — began the defence of their title by beating the Spaniards Jordi Burillo and Tomas Carbonell 6–1, 6–4.

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Athletics

Men run into busy summer

Duncan Mackay on the difficult choices for those who retained the European Cup

BRITAIN'S male athletes further complicated an already hectic summer by retaining the European Cup in St Petersburg at the weekend and qualifying for the World Cup final in Johannesburg in September.

The global event is sandwiched between the European Championships in Budapest and the Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur, leaving athletes such as Colin Jackson and Jonathan Edwards facing the prospect of clocking up thousands of air miles as they chase glory on three continents within the space of a month.

Max Jones, the performance director, was yesterday making plans to ensure Britain fields their strongest team for Johannesburg even though the Commonwealth Games begin three days after the World Cup ends.

"We know it could be a problem for athletes who want to go to both events," said Jones. "We will leave it up to individuals. There will be no three-line whip saying they have to go the World Cup.

"Athletes will have different opinions about what is more important to their careers. If they choose to do both we will do all we can to help them.

"The guys in the explosive events are likely to suffer less than the endurance athletes; most concern will be there. We will look into arranging a training venue for those who want to go on from the European Championships to prepare for the World Cup and Commonwealth Games."

A major attraction for Britain's athletes will be the carrot of £2.11 million in prize-money; it is the first World Cup to offer financial rewards. The winner of each event will receive $50,000 (£30,000) and the silver and bronze medallists will collect $20,000 (£12,000) and $10,000 (£6,000).

Jones has worked in difficult conditions since taking over from Malcolm Arnold as chief coach after the British Athletic Federation declared itself insolvent last October.

"It's like a phoenix rising from the flames," he said. "This sort of thing will attract youngsters to the sport; they will see we are successful. We want to win the World Cup and it is possible."

The meeting was a personal triumph for Colin Jackson, who was named Male Athlete of the Year after winning the 110 metres hurdles and finishing third in the 100m. He plans to add a third string to his repertoire when he makes his debut in the long jump in Linz, Austria, on Sunday. The Welshman hopes to break Lynn Davies's UK record of 8.23m, set 30 years ago today. "I know I've got the speed to do it," he said.

● Sonia O'Sullivan took more than eight seconds off the 13-year-old world record for two miles with a time of 9min 19.56sec in Cork. The Irishwoman's 64sec final lap on Sunday helped the American Amy Rudolph and Kathy Butler of Canada to also beat the old mark of 9:28.15, set by the American Lynn Jennings.

Motor Racing

Suspicious Dennis hints at conspiracy to help Ferrari

Alan Henry

THE conspiracy theorists had a field day after Sunday's French Grand Prix, advancing the notion that the reason Ferrari had trounced McLaren-Mercedes was that officialdom somehow connived with the Italian team to abort the race's first start.

"Sometimes the playing field doesn't seem level, and this is one of those times," said Ron Dennis, McLaren's managing director, after Michael Schumacher and Eddie Irvine pushed his best-placed car, driven by Mika Hakkinen, into third place.

The suggestion that the starter decided to give Ferrari a second chance after Hakkinen beat Schumacher off the line at the first attempt may be regarded by outsiders as evidence that acute paranoia is alive and well within the grand prix community.

Since Schumacher was let off with a slapped wrist for attempting to ram Jacques Villeneuve off the circuit in last year's championship decider in Spain an air of unease has pervaded the paddocks over what many regard as the partiality of FIA, the sport's governing body, towards the Italian team.

None of this alters the fact that the outcome proved that Ferrari are now established as consistent and formidable Formula One operators. Moreover their success received the personal praise of the company's high-profile president Luca di Montezemolo, who also confirmed that the sporting director Jean Todt has renewed his contract until the end of the 2001 season.

Todt's decision to remain at Ferrari will provide a level of management stability previously undreamt of within the most famous grand prix team. It is also likely to be a major factor in tempting Schumacher to sign a further long-term contract beyond the 1999 season.

"This is a dream result," Todt said after Sunday's race. "Schumacher and Irvine had an incredible race and Eddie did a great job to keep the McLarens behind him."

However, McLaren believe privately that only technical unreliability stands between them and the world championship. Certainly David Coulthard has to believe so, after refuelling problems meant a dismal sixth place. For their part, Schumacher and Irvine have a more clear-cut view; they believe they have the McLarens on the run.

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slip-ups

Sampras still smiling after three days in the locker-room

Motor Racing

Suspicious Dennis hints at conspiracy to help Ferrari

Wimbledon 98

Smiles from Smith after receiving short shrift

Paul Weaver sees Britain's remaining woman fizzle out

AT THE end, as she left the court, there was a pursed-lips smile and a little self-conscious half-wave, as if she felt guilty about taking 53 minutes out of our lives.

Sam Smith, words that until Saturday afternoon would have suggested little more than a pint of bitter on a Yorkshire evening, or perhaps a saloon gunslinger who drew against John Wayne and didn't make it, was beaten 6-3, 6-1 on Court One.

She drew against Nathalie Tauziat and she didn't make it either, although at least she got to walk away. The first British woman to reach the last 16 since Jo Durie in 1985 walked off alone; Tauziat, who had been accompanying her, was called back to sign autographs.

It was hardly the day in the sun Smith might have hoped for on her first appearance on the second biggest stage in the country. There was dampness in the chilly air and this sullen, Transylvanian Wimbledon always threatened to rain on her parade.

In the event Tauziat, the 16th seed and a natural on grass, even though the surface did not appear on the curriculum of her tennis education, rained more than hard enough for Smith.

The powerful forehand and sliced backhand that had proved too much for the former champion Conchita Martinez, the eighth seed and world No. 7, in the previous round were insufficient weapons against this experienced and considerable all-round player.

Smith was blown away by her French opponent in front of a crowd who huddled in the cold and willed to be warmed by a heroine. The Essex woman was not that, but a lesser player might have crawled away for a little weep. Instead Smith arrived at the press conference with a breezy smile and a voice full of gratitude and hope.

"It was an amazing experience," she said. "It was really tough out there but I enjoyed it. I was surprised at how relaxed I was and how much I enjoyed the big occasion. It was difficult for the crowd. Nathalie didn't really give me a chance."

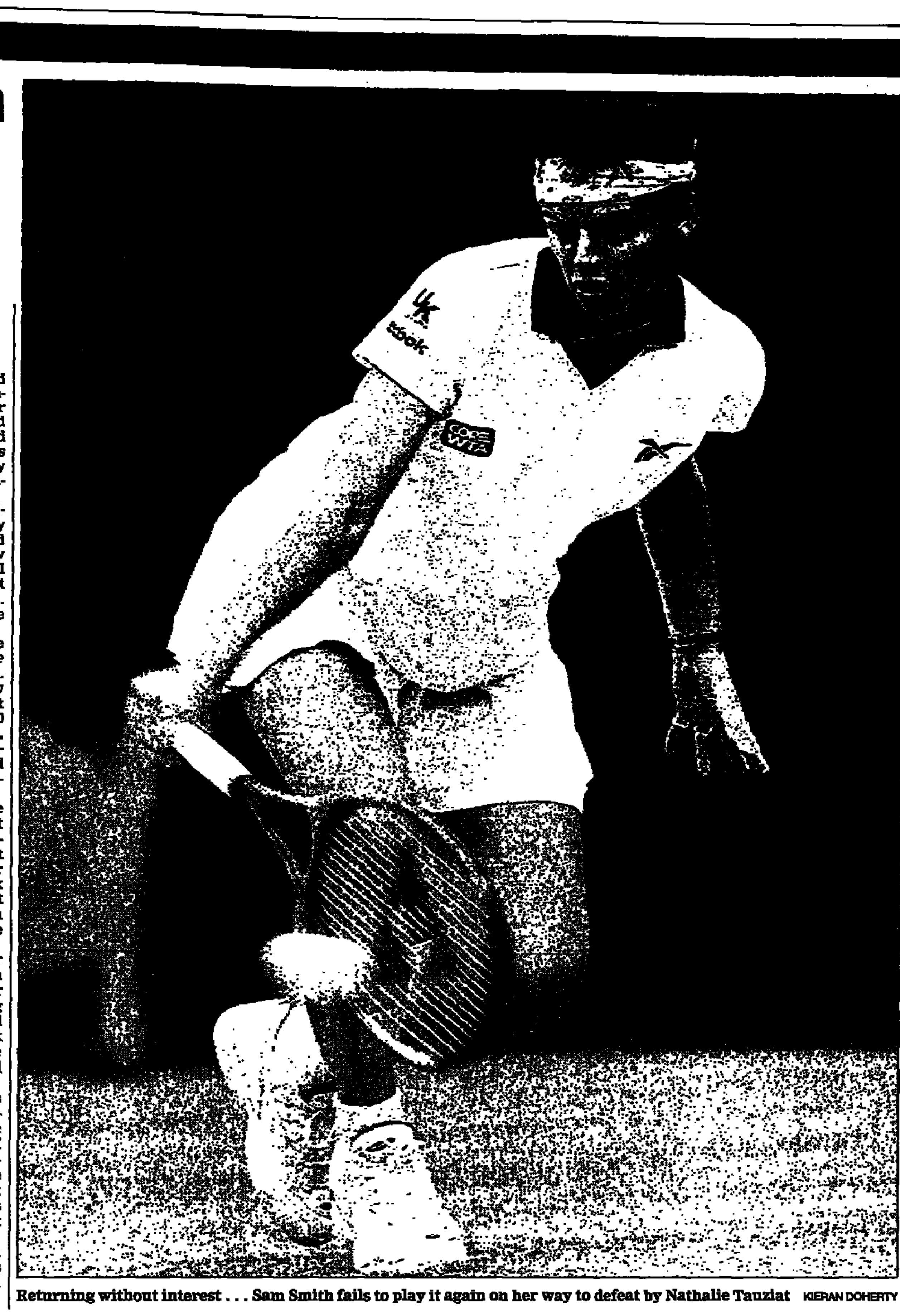
Smith was broken in the opening game when she weakly netted a backhand. The next two games also saw breaks of serve before Tauziat served out to take the set in 30 minutes. Her intelligence, thoughtful variation and ability to mix up her game and volley with elan from mid-court troubled Smith.

Tauziat broke again in the second game of the second set to go 2-0 up. We then witnessed Smith's brave last stand. She wound up her strong forehand to break back to love in the next game. But her spirit was finally broken when Tauziat broke once more in the fourth.

Smith, 26, who took four years out of the game to gain a history degree at Exeter University, is now looking forward to cheering England on in tonight's game against Argentina. Her agent Steve Kutner also represents Paul Ince and David Seaman.

Having banned her parents from attending the match because she felt their presence would put her off, she said afterwards: "I have a lot of belief in myself after these championships. I like to think that what happened here was no fluke. I also did well at Eastbourne and Edgbaston."

Yesterday, however, Smith seemed to play her best shots in the press conference, and not on court.



Returning without interest . . . Sam Smith fails to play it again on her way to defeat by Nathalie Tauziat KIERAN DOHERTY

Racing

Daylami to underline his claims

Graham Rock

RACING needs its equine heroes to draw the crowds, and the middle-distance championship of Europe is wide open.

Daylami, however, the 6-4 favourite with the sponsors for the Coral-Eclipse, might emerge as a leading contender if he wins the race decisively at Sandown on Saturday.

With the defeat of Silver Patriarch on Sunday, Dream Well would be most bookmakers' market leader for the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe. On easy ground he won impressively, but with City Honours failing to act on the testing ground, the opposition was relatively weak.

Daylami is one of three Godolphin entries for the Group One race over a mile and a quarter at Sandown. He was unlucky when third to stable companion Faithful Son in the Prince Of Wales's Stakes at Royal Ascot, being hampered when challenging, yet going down by only a neck and the same, conceding the winner 5lb.

Godolphin have also declared Faithful Son and Central Park. The latter is a possible runner, but a final decison on his participation will be made later in the week. Frankie Dettori will ride Daylami, who had previously won the Tattersalls Gold Cup at The Curragh. John Reid will maintain his association with Faithful Son and Darragh O'Donohoe will partner Central Park.

"Daylami is very well, and is our main hope," said the Godolphin manager, Simon Crisford. "We'll see how he runs on Saturday, but he might stay further, and is entered for the King George."

Duck Row, third to Dr Fong in the St James's Palace Stakes, attempts a mile and a quarter for the first time. "Hopefully that will suit him," said James Toller. "He seems just short of pace to beat the very top milers, but has been staying on. He's come out of Ascot very well, and I'm not too worried about the going." At present the ground at Sandown is good to soft.

Sir Michael Stoute has declared both Insatiable, who was disappointing behind Daylami at the Royal meeting earlier in the month when he failed to settle in the early stages, and the Coronation Stakes winner, Exclusive. A stable spokesperson said that no decsion had been made on Exclusive's future running plans.

Poteen, who shaped as though he would stay further when third to Intikhab over the mile of the Queen Anne Stakes, is expected to take his chance, along with Taipan, who finished sixth behind Faithful Son last time.

It is difficult to envisage defeat for Daylami at his best.

Trip looks perfect for Alcayde

SLIGHTLY disappointing when a beaten favourite at Ripon in April, Alcayde looks the best bet at Chepstow today, *writes Graham Rock*.

John Dunlop's colt, who runs in the Philip Jones 21st Birthday Handicap, had previously chased home Elbarree at Nottingham. Both those performances were over a mile and he runs as though he should improve over this afternoon's 10 furlongs.

Harmony, who carries a 5lb penalty for a comfortable victory at Beverley, looks the main threat to Alcayde (4.00).

Queen Of Scotland has an obvious chance in the Summer Selling Stakes (2.00) and will win if she reproduces her best form, while Sampower Star (2.30) is dropped in class for the Bream Claiming Stakes and can give racing's most colourful trainer, Rod Simpson, a welcome success.

Sport in brief

Rugby Union

The All Black centre Walter Little has rejected what was thought to be a six-figure offer from Wasps in favour of a new contract with the NZ RFU and his provincial employers North Harbour. The former All Black Marc Ellis, who struggled to adapt to rugby league at Auckland Warriors, has signed a 3½-year contract to switch codes again and join Little at North Harbour.

Ice Hockey

Superleague's European entrants doubled to four yesterday with Sheffield and Cardiff among 48 clubs named to contest the second Continental Cup season, *writes Vic Batchelder*. With Ayr and Manchester in the elite European League, Cardiff start off by hosting a second-round group involving Dunaferr (Hungary), Ljubljana (Slovenia) and the winners of a first-round group that sees Sheffield travel to Poland's Nowy Targ.

Rugby League

The Rugby Football League has opened talks with the Rugby Football Union about staging the Challenge Cup final at Twickenham, as alternative venues for the final in 2000 and 2001 are needed while Wembley is being rebuilt.

Results

Football

INTERTOTO CUP: First round, second legs Shamrock Rvrs (Ire) 3 Altay (Tur) 2 (agg: 4-5); Orgryte (Swe) 4 Ethnikos Achna (Cyp) 0 (5-2); DVSC Debrecen (Hun) 5 Dnepr-Transmash Mogilev (Bela) 0 (10-2); Vorskla Poltava (Ukr) 3 Leiftur (Ice) 0 (5-0); Kongsvinger IL (Nor) 3 Ebbw Vale (Wales) 0 (9-1); Hapoel Haifa (Isr) 1 National Bucuresti 2 (2-5); Spartak Varna (Bul) 1 Baltika Kalingrad (Rus) 1 (1-5); FK Vojvodina (Yug) 3 Stabaek (Nor) 2 (5-3); Lyngby (Den) 0 Hrvatski Dragovoljac (Cro) 1 (4-2); Hradec Kralove (Cz) 2 Hobscheid (Lux) 1 (2-1); Sliema Wanderers (Malta) 2 Diosgyori (Hun) 3 (2-5); Sion (Switz) 2 TPS Turku (Fin) 3 (3-8; Turku win on away goals); Boby Brno (Cz) 3 VB Vagur (Faroes) 1 (8-1); Viljandi Tulevik (Est) 1 St Gallen (Switz) 6 (3-8); OZETA Trencin (Slovak) 4 Dinaburg (Lat) 1 (5-2); Baki Fekhlesi (Azerbaijan) 1 Inkaras (Lith) 0 (1-1; Inkaras won on pens); Erebuni-Homenmen (Arm) 1 Torpedo Kutaisi Georgia) 1 (1-7); SCT Olimpija (Slovak) 1 Makedonija Skopje (Mac) 1 (3-5); Omagh Tn (NI) 2 Rimavska Sobota (Slovak) 2 (2-3); Ruch Chorzow (Pol) 2 Austria Vienna 2 (3-2).

Rugby League

MASON COMMUNICATIONS CHAMPIONSHIP: England Stdts 18 Wales Stdts 8. **AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL LEAGUE:** Sydney C 40 Canberra 12; Illawarra 24 North 18; North Sydney 30 Penrith 22; Balmain 12 South Sydney 16; Newcastle 38 Parramatta 12.

Golf

WESTERN OPEN (Illinois): Leading final scores (US unless stated): **271** J Durant 68, 67, 70, 66. **273** V Singh (Fij) 68, 68, 65, 72. **277** D Hart 74, 70, 70, 63; L Janzen 68, 68, 69, 71. **278** S Stricker 71, 69, 67, 71; G Kraft 67, 70, 66, 75. **279** J Furyk 72, 71, 68, 68; S Hoch 71, 67, 70, 71. **281** S Verplank 75, 71, 68, 67; C Dennis 71, 69, 73, 68; H Frazar 74, 70, 69, 68; J Leonard 72, 72, 69, 68; D Forsman 74, 71, 68, 68; T Woods 76, 67, 69, 69; S Appleby (Aus) 73, 71, 68, 69; J Ozaki (Japan) 71, 69, 68, 73. **Also: 284** N Price (Zim) 72, 74, 69, 69.

LPGA CLASSIC (Atlantic City): **Leading final scores** (US unless stated): **195** A Sorenstam (Swe) 66, 65, 65. **200** J Inkster 67, 66, 67. **203** L Kane (Can) 69, 67, 67. **204** H Dobson (GB) 71, 68, 65. **205** L Walters (Can) 70, 67, 68; K Robbins 69, 67, 69; D Andrews 69, 68, 68; T Barrett 66, 69, 70. **206** D Ammaccapane 70, 69, 67; R Jones 67, 69, 70. **207** K Webb (Aus) 72, 71, 64; A Acker-Macosko 69, 71, 67; L Benvenuti (Br) 67, 71, 69; A Dibos (Per) 66, 72, 69. **208** N Bowen 70, 70, 68; B Mucha 68, 71, 69; B Iverson 70, 68, 70; D Coe-Jones (Can) 71, 65, 72. **Also: 209** S Strudwick (GB) 70, 69, 70; C McMillan (GB) 66, 71, 72. **211** L Hackney (GB) 72, 71, 68; J Moodie (GB) 70, 71, 70. **214** A Nicholas (GB) 70, 70, 74. **216** D Reid (GB) 68, 73, 75.

Baseball

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Pittsburgh 6 Los Angeles 4. **Standings: East Division:** 1, Atlanta (W53, L29, Pct.646, GB0); 2, NY Mets (43-34-.558-7½); 3, Philadelphia (40-39-.506-11½); 4, Montreal (33-47-.413-19); 5, Florida (26-53-.346-24½). **Central Division:** 1, Houston (48-32-.600-0); 2, Milwaukee (42-37-.532-6); 3, Chicago Cubs (43-38-.531-6); 4, St Louis (38-41-.488-9½); 5, Pittsburgh (38-43-.476-10½); 6, Cincinnati (34-46-.410-16). **West Division:** 1, San Diego (53-29-.646-0); 2, San Francisco (48-35-.578-5½); 3, Los Angeles (38-42-.481-13½); 4, Colorado (36-47-.434-17½); 5, Arizona (26-54-.341-25).

AMERICAN LEAGUE: East Division Standings: 1, NY Yankees (W55, L20, Pct.733, GB0); 2, Boston (47-32-.595-10); 3, Toronto (41-41-.500-17½); 4, Baltimore (37-45-.451-21½); 5, Tampa Bay (34-46-.425-23½). **Central Division:** 1, Cleveland (46-33-.582-0); 2, Minnesota (38-42-.475-8½); 3, Kansas City (36-45-.438-11½); 4, Chicago WS (33-47-.413-13½); 5, Detroit (30-48-.385-15½). **West Division:** 1, Anaheim (48-32-.600-0); 2, Texas (46-35-.568-2½); 3, Oakland (36-44-.450-12); 4, Seattle (34-48-.415-15).

INTERLEAGUE: Cleveland 3 Houston 12; Detroit 2 Cincinnati 5; Atlanta 10 Toronto 3; Montreal 8 Baltimore 4; Philadelphia 4 Tampa Bay 5; Chicago WS 10 Milwaukee 8; Kansas City 3 Chicago Cubs 6; Minnesota 3 St Louis 2; Colorado 11 Oakland 10; Arizona 3 Seattle 2; San Diego 3 Anaheim 11; San Francisco 7 Texas 0; Florida 5 Boston 1; NY Mets 2 NY Yankees 1.

Chess

DORTMUND SPARKASSEN GRANDMASTERS (Ger): **Round Three:** A Shirov (Sp) 0 P Leko (Hun) 1; M Adams (Eng) ½ Z Almasi (Hun) ½; A Belyavsky (Slo) v V Kramnik (Rus); A Yusupov (Ger) v V Ivanchuk (Ukr); P Svidler (Rus) v V Anand (Ind) drawn. **Leaders:** Adams, Ivanchuk, Kramnik, Leko (2); Anand, Svidler, Yusupov 1½.

Chepstow Jackpot card

	GRAHAM ROCK	TOP FORM
2.00	Queen Of Scotland	Queen Of Scotland
2.30	Sampower Star (nb)	Sampower Star
3.00	River Tern	River Tern (nap)
3.30	King Tango	King Tango
4.00	Alcayde (nap)	Praetorian Gold
4.30	Bridie's Pride	Shaldyr

Left-handed, undulating track of 2m with 5f run-in. Straight mile.
Going: Good to soft. ★ Denotes blinkers. ● Top form rating.
Draw: High numbers favoured in sprints.
Seven day winners: 4.0 Harmony.
Blinkered first time: 3.00 The Puzzler; 3.30 Falcon Sale. Visored: None.
Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. J, Jumps.

2.00 SUMMER SELLING STAKES 3YO
1m £2,374 (12 declared)

101 (3) Castle Beau R Hodges 9-0 .... S Drowne —
102 (9) -00504 Goldimeadow (38) J Neville 9-0 .... C Carver (7) 82
103 (5) 3 How High (35) R Simpson 9-0 .... M Gallagher 85
104 (10) 108364 Queen Of Scotland (6) M Channon 9-0 .... T Quinn ●90
105 (7) 50-400 Lilanita (8) B Palling 8-9 .... T Sprake 80
106 (2) 30-502 Rewardia (22) P Evans 8-9 .... J F Egan 86
107 (1) 434535 River Frontier (24) M Usher 8-9 .... J Marshall 79
108 (4) 1040-3 Rosewood Lady (8) K Burke 8-9 .... N Callan (7) 87
109 (8) 2060-0 Shamlil (19) B Llewellyn 8-9 .... M Pollard (7) 83
110 (6) -44500 Silent Pride (7) M Usher 8-9 .... J Fowle (7) 80
111 (12) 000460 Tea Dancer (8) B Meehan 8-9 .... K Fallon 78
112 (11) -00032 Tol (8) P Bowen 8-9 .... Jonny Beeson (7) 85

Betting: 9-4 Queen Of Scotland, 8-1 Rewardia, Tol, 7-1 Lilanita, 8-1 How High, Rosewood Lady, 10-1 Tea Dancer.

FORM GUIDE - Goldimeadow: Held up, headway 3f out, one pace final 2f, 4th of 12, 6l behind King Of The River, with Shamlil (rec 5lb) 7th, btn 12l, at Chepstow 7f claim, Gd-Sft. How High: Headway over 2f out, every chance inside final furlong, unable to quicken, 3rd of 12, 2l behind Nouveau Cheval at Leicester 1m claim, Gd. Queen Of Scotland: Held up, hampered 6f out, ridden over 2f out, one pace, 4th of 9, 3l behind Star Manager at Epsom 1m1f claim, Gd. Lilanita: Outpaced, 15th of 20, 9l behind King Uno at Nottingham 6f hcap, Gd. Rewardia: Held up, headway over 1f out, ran on well final furlong, not trouble winner, 2nd of 20, 5l behind Vice Presidential at Warwick 7f claim, Sft. River Frontier: Held up, headway 5f out, never reached leaders, 5th of 11, 20l behind Norski Lad at W'hampton 1m7f hcap, AW. Rosewood Lady: Held up, headway over 3f out, every chance inside furlong, no extra, 3rd of 17, 1¾l behind Swoosh at Nottingham 1m sell hcap, Gd. Silent Pride: Slowly into stride, always behind, 10th of 12, 7¾l behind Perfect Poppy at Lingfield 1m2f app hcap, Gd-Fm. Tol: Always prominent, edged badly left 2f out, ran on, 2nd of 15, 3l behind Lady Rockstar, with Tea Dancer (gave 22lb) 12th, btn 21l, at Windsor 1m2f fils hcap, Gd-Fm.

2.30 BREAM CLAIMING STAKES 2YO
6f £2,304 (10 declared)

201 (5) 531 David (14) (D) Miss G Kelleway 8-3 .... T Quinn 86
202 (2) 20 Sampower Star (11) R Simpson 8-11 .... M Gallagher ●90
203 (10) 40 Spill The Aces (63) R Hannon 8-11 .... Dane O'Neill 84
204 (8) 00 Irish Melody (15) B Meehan 8-7 .... G Hannon (7) 78
205 (8) 0532 Lament (16) Mrs L Stubbs 8-4 .... T Sprake 87
206 (4) 00621 Cashild (10) (D) B Palling 8-2 .... D Sweeney 88
207 (1) 000 Koralok (8) M Fetherston-Godley 8-2 .... M Pollard (7) 77
208 (3) 4 Charliejpageo's (15) W G M Turner 8-0 .... A Nicholls (7) 84
209 (6) Smart Snip B Smart 8-0 .... A McCarthy (3) —
210 (7) 00304 My Mother's Dream (18) M A Buckley 7-13 .... F Norton 84

Betting: 7-4 Sampower Star, 5-1 David, 6-1 Spill The Aces, 7-1 Cashild, 8-1 Lament, 10-1 Charliejpageo's, 14-1 Smart Snip.

FORM GUIDE - David: Made all, pushed out, beating Lucky Red 5l, with Charliejpageo's (rec 5lb) 4th, btn 7l, Irish Melody (rec 5lb) 7th, btn 13l, at Brighton 6f sell, Gd. Sampower Star: Prominent, ridden 2f out, edged right, soon beaten, 8th of 14, 7l behind Flanders at Ascot 5f stks, Gd-Sft. Spill The Aces: Faded two out, 8th of 13, 14l behind Monkston Point at Bath 5l mdn auct, Sft. Cashild: Led close home, beating Lament (rec 7lb) a shd, with My Mother's Dream (levels) 4th, btn 7l, at Lingfield 6f sell, Gd. Koralok: Behind final 2f, 13th of 18, well behind Almost Amber at Salisbury 5l mdn fils, Gd-Fm.

3.00 49'S STEWARDS TRIAL HANDICAP
5f £6,905 (10 declared)

301 (4) 0-6430 The Puzzler (11) (D) B Hills 7-9-13 .... A Nicholls (7) ★ 88
302 (2) 210-08 Audigny (31) (D) S Dow 3-9-7 .... P Doe (5) 85
303 (8) 56-400 Hopping Higgins (61) (D) R Hannon 3-9-6 .... R Hughes 88
304 (3) 621044 Mister Jolson (8) (D) (BF) R Hodges 9-8-9 .... M Pollard (7) 84
305 (5) 500101 Mangus (13) (D) K Cunningham-Brown 4-8-8 .... T Quinn 87
306 (1) 023-22 Uplifting (17) (BF) L Cottrell 3-8-6 .... A Daly (3) 82
307 (7) 221305 Divine Miss-P (17) (D) J Collinan 5-8-4 .... D Sweeney 88
308 (6) 600-03 River Tern (35) (D) J Bradley 5-7-10 .... R Mullen (5) ●90
309 (10) 004312 Barranak (3) (D) (BF) G McCourt 6-7-10 .... A McCarthy (3) ★ 86
310 (9) 030205 Runs In The Family (5) (D) (BF) G McCourt 6-7-10 .... C Cogan (7) ★ 81

Tote betting: 4-1 River Tern, 6-1 The Puzzler, 13-2 Mister Jolson, Barranak, 7-1 Mangus, Divine Miss-P, 8-1 Audigny, 9-1 Uplifting, 10-1 Hopping Higgins, Runs In The Family.
Ladbrokes betting: 7-2 River Tern, 9-2 Barranak, 6-1 The Puzzler, Mister Jolson, 7-1 Divine Miss-P, 9-1 Audigny, Uplifting, 10-1 Hopping Higgins, 11-1 Mangus, 16-1 Runs In The Family.
Hill's betting: 7-2 River Tern, 5-1 Barranak, 6-1 Mister Jolson, 13-2 The Puzzler, 7-1 Mangus, Divine Miss-P, 8-1 Uplifting, 9-1 Audigny, 12-1 Hopping Higgins, 20-1 Runs In The Family.
Coral betting: 4-1 River Tern, 11-2 The Puzzler, Mister Jolson, Barranak, Divine Miss-P, 9-1 Audigny, Mangus, Uplifting, 10-1 Hopping Higgins, 20-1 Runs In The Family.

FORM GUIDE - The Puzzler: Outpaced, 21st of 29, 13l behind Selhurstpark Flyer at Ascot 6f hcap, Gd-Sft. Audigny: Never near to challenge, 6th of 9, 3l behind Midnight Escape at Kempton 5f listed, Gd-Fm. Hopping Higgins: Held up, hard ridden 2f out, soon weakened, 7th of 9, 10l behind Lochangel at Bath 6f lls, Gd. Mister Jolson: Held up, headway over 1f out, ran on inside final furlong, 4th of 6, 1¾l behind Aram at Salisbury 5f hcap, Gd-Fm. Mangus: Always prominent, ridden to lead inside final furlong, ran on, beating Aljaz 1l at W'hampton 5f hcap, AW. Uplifting: Always prominent, led 2f out, headed well inside final furlong, unable to quicken, 2nd of 12, ¾l behind Moon Tango at Lingfield 6f mdn, Gd. Divine Miss-P: Led until inside final furlong, 5th of 9, 5l behind Jayannpee at Bath 6f hcap, Gd-Sft. River Tern: Pulled hard, not clear run over 1f out until well inside final furlong, finished strongly, 3rd of 16, 2½l behind Kilcallen Lad at Redcar 5l hcap, Gd-Fm. Barranak: Led, edged left inside final furlong, headed near finish, 2nd of 15, hd behind Windrush Boy at Lingfield 5f hcap, Gd. Runs In The Family: Came stands' side halfway, one pace final furlong, 5th of 16, 4¾l behind Miss Dangerous at Warwick 5f fils hcap, Gd-Sft.

3.30 CAFFREY'S IRISH ALE MAIDEN STAKES 3YO
1m 2f 36yds £3,566 (12 declared)

401 (3) 0 Catiol (15) L Cumani 9-0 .... L Dettori 86
402 (5) 00 El Fuerte (15) P Makin 9-0 .... D Griffiths (3) 79
403 (12) 02-0 Falcon Sale (J70) M Pipe 9-0 .... R Hughes ★ —
404 (7) 500- High Jinks (243) B Preece 9-0 .... V Slattery —
405 (4) 2 King Tango (18) H Cecil 9-0 .... K Fallon ●96
406 (9) 500 Red Bordeaux (42) B Hills 9-0 .... T Quinn 87
407 (6) 00 Redi Knight (28) M Fetherston-Godley 9-0 .... F Norton 79
408 (11) 0-0 Rush Off (28) R Hannon 9-0 .... Dane O'Neill 88
409 (10) 0 Tabernacle (11) R Charlton 9-0 .... T Sprake 78
410 (1) 60 Time Loss (34) H Candy 9-0 .... Paul Eddery 88
411 (2) 0 Wood's Day (28) S Sherwood 9-0 .... R Perham 80
412 (8) 32 Krista (21) J Toller 8-9 .... S Sanders 87

Betting: 4-5 King Tango, 5-1 Krista, 10-1 Catiol, Tabernacle, 12-1 Red Bordeaux, 14-1 Falcon Sale, 20-1 Rush Off, Time Loss.

FORM GUIDE - Catiol: Always about same place, 8th of 21, 12l behind Coolbard, with El Fuerte (rec 3lb) 14th, btn 19l, at Windsor 1m3f mdn, Sft. Falcon Sale: 9th of 14, 11l behind Balzac at Saint-Cloud 1m2f stks, Hvy. High Jinks: With leaders, ridden 3l out, weakened final 2f, 10th of 13, 20l behind Almandab at Nottingham 1m mdn, Gd. King Tango: Held up, ridden over 3f out, chased winner final furlong, unable to quicken, 2nd of 15, 2l behind Dark Shell at Sandown 1m2f mdn, Gd-Sft. Red Bordeaux: Behind, effort 3l out, stayed on steadily, never near to challenge, 7th of 17, 13l behind Forest Ending at Beverley 1m2f mdn, Gd-Fm. Redi Knight: Never near leaders, 10th of 25, 14l behind Cloak Of Darkness, with Wood's Day (levels) 11th, btn 14l, Rush Off (levels) 19th, btn 22l, at Windsor 1m2f mdn auct, Gd-Fm. Tabernacle: In touch 6f, 14th of 15, 18l behind Olive The Twist at Newmarket 1m2f mdn, Gd. Time Loss: Prominent, pushed along over 4l out, soon beaten, 8th of 12, 18l behind Spindrift at Newmarket 1m mdn, Gd-Fm. Krista: Ridden 3l out, headway over 1l out, ran on well inside final furlong, 3rd of 14, 5l behind Kariyh at Salisbury 1m mdn fils, Gd-Sft.

4.00 PHILIP JONES 21ST BIRTHDAY HANDICAP 3YO
1m 2f 36yds £3,469 (8 declared)

501 (2) 0221 Harmony (7) (5lb ex) L Cumani 9-9 .... L Dettori 89
502 (8) 010-00 Insatiableway (68) B Meehan 9-7 .... J F Egan 88
503 (7) 03-031 Praetorian Gold (18) (D) R Hannon 9-4 .... R Hughes ●98
504 (3) 4-23 Alcayde (75) (BF) J Dunlop 9-3 .... K Fallon 86
505 (6) 332520 Manza Musa (18) M Channon 9-3 .... T Quinn 85
506 (5) 11-004 Caversfield (17) R Hannon 9-3 .... P Dobbs (7) 85
507 (1) 00-20 Memphis Dancer (26) J Hills 9-0 .... A Clark 83
508 (4) 0650-0 Lord Warford (65) G Balding 8-7 .... S Drowne 84

Betting: 5-2 Harmony, 3-1 Alcayde, 7-2 Praetorian Gold, 7-1 Caversfield, 8-1 Manza Musa, 12-1 Insatiableway, Memphis Dancer, 25-1 Lord Warford.

FORM GUIDE - Harmony: Made all, quickened clear 3l out, easily, beating Bolshoi Star 6l at Beverley 1m mdn, Gd. Insatiableway: Raced wide, pushed along over 5l out, lost place 3f out, 8th of 13, 42l behind Tensile at Beverley 1m2f hcap, Sft. Praetorian Gold: Held up, headway over 2f out, led final furlong, ran on well, beating Transylvania 3½l, with Manza Musa (gave 4lb) 7th, btn 9l, at Goodwood 1m2f hcap, Gd. Alcayde: Chased leaders, effort over 3f out, every chance over 1f out, stayed on same pace, 3rd of 8, 3l behind Double Classic at Ripon 1m mdn, Sft. Caversfield: Held up, ridden over 2f out, kept on approaching final furlong, 4th of 5, 5l behind Smooth Sailing at Leicester 7f hcap, Sft. Memphis Dancer: Prominent, weakened over 3f out, 9th of 12, 11l behind Tequila at Goodwood 1m mdn auct, Gd. Lord Warford: Always in rear, tailed off final furlong, last of 11, 49l behind High And Mighty at Chester 1m4f hcap, Gd.

4.30 LIONS LODGE HANDICAP
2m 2f £2,866 (7 declared)

601 (7) -43363 Sea Freedom (14) G Balding 7-9-12 .... S Drowne ★ 86
602 (2) 202/40 Major's Law (10) R Simpson 9-8-13 .... M Gallagher 84
603 (3) 3-2601 Arisaig (15) (D) P Calver 4-8-12 .... K Fallon 89
604 (8) 210-61 Bridie's Pride (10) (CD) G Ham 7-8-12 .... J Fowle (7) 87
605 (4) 0-4103 Black Ice Boy (15) R Bastiman 7-8-2 .... Paul Eddery ★ 88
606 (1) 120003 Shaldyr (8) R Hollinshead 7-7-13 .... A McCarthy (3) ●90
607 (5) -43544 Asiabox (24) B Meehan 3-7-10 .... M Carlisle ★ 82

Betting: 3-1 Sea Freedom, 7-2 Arisaig, 4-1 Bridie's Pride, 11-2 Black Ice Boy, 6-1 Shaldyr, 10-1 Major's Law, Asiabox.

FORM GUIDE - Sea Freedom: In touch, hard driven over 3f out, stayed on inside final furlong, 3rd of 23, 4l behind San Sebastian at Ascot 2m4f hcap, Gd-Sft. Arisaig: Headway 6l out, stayed on final 2f, led well inside final furlong, beating Highfield Fizz a hd, with Black Ice Boy (rec 15lb) 3rd, btn 3l, at Pontefract 2m2f hcap, Sft. Bridie's Pride: Headway 10l out, led over 7l out, ridden over 1l out, ran on well, beating Rowcliffe Court 3l, with Major's Law (gave 15lb) 11th, btn 26l, at Ascot 2m hcap, Gd. Shaldyr: Prominent until lost place 6f out, stayed on final 2l, never able challenge, 3rd of 8, 2l behind Highfield Fizz at Musselburgh 2m hcap, Gd-Fm. Asiabox: Chased leaders, led over 4l out, soon headed, weakened over 2l out, 4th of 11, 14l behind Norski Lad at W'hampton 1m7f hcap, AW.

Hamilton

	GRAHAM ROCK	TOP FORM
2.15	Superfrills	Soaked
2.45	Tampa Lady	Tampa Lady (nb)
3.15	Robin Lane	Raed
3.45	Just Bob	Just Bob
4.15	Advance East	Durgams First
4.45	On Call	On Call

Straight 6f with pear-shaped right-handed loop course of 1m5f and 5f run-in.
Going: Good to soft. ★ Denotes blinkers. ● Top form rating.
Draw: Middle to high numbers favoured.
Seven day winners: 2.15 Hanby, Distant King; 3.45 Just Bob.
Blinkered first time: 2.45 Ensbeg. Visored: 4.15 Ten Past Six.

2.15 STANLEY RACING HANDICAP
5f £2,346 (12 declared)

1 (8) 121111 Soaked (18) (C) (D) D Chapman 5-9-11 .... A Culhane ●90
2 (4) 312420 Henry The Hawk (4) (CD) M Dods 7-8-4 .... D Mernagh (7) ★ 86
3 (10) 05-506 Miss Island (13) (D) M Wane 6-8-12 .... J Carroll 88
4 (9) 040031 Hanby (6) (7lb ex) (CD) J Goldie 6-8-12 .... J Fortune 83
5 (7) 000031 Distant King (7) (D) G Kelly 5-8-9 .... S Finnamore (7) 88
6 (12) 000206 Dahal Nurse (6) A Dickes 4-8-9 .... W Supple 85
7 (2) 050002 Another Nightmare (20) (CD) R McKellar 6-8-7 .... K Sked (5) 87
8 (3) 030035 Bill-Em (13) (CD) Miss L Perratt 4-8-5 .... G Duffield 87
9 (5) 055-00 Best Kept Secret (28) (CD) D Nolan 7-8-2 .... A Mackay 79
10 (1) 660004 Another Episode (13) (D) Miss L Perratt 8-8-2 .... J McAuley (7) 78
11 (11) -00002 Superfrills (8) Miss L Siddall 5-8-1 .... L Charnock 88
12 (6) 05-0 Val's Uccell (71) Ron Thompson 3-7-11 .... T Williams 82

Betting: 11-4 Soaked, 9-2 Distant King, 13-2 Hanby, 8-1 Another Nightmare, Superfrills, 10-1 Henry The Hawk.

2.45 BUSINESS PAGES SELLING STAKES 2YO
6f £2,234 (8 declared)

1 (2) Blakey J Berry 8-11 .... C Lowther —
2 (4) 026344 Caneyface (10) N Tinkler 8-6 .... Kim Tinkler ★ 86
3 (3) 45 Ensbeg (10) J Parkes 8-6 .... J Fortune ★ 85
4 (6) Melody Wood M Dods 8-6 .... Dale Gibson 87
5 (7) 05 Melody Queen (29) Ron Thompson 8-6 .... V Halliday 89
6 (5) 0046P Phantom Threesome (4) W Kemp 8-6 .... R Winston (5) 79
7 (8) 2450 Tampa Lady (77) (BF) M Johnston 8-6 .... J Carroll ●98
8 (1) 5 Thorntoun Gold (6) M Johnston 8-6 .... Dean McKeown 82

Betting: 3-1 Tampa Lady, 7-2 Blakey, Caneyface, 9-2 Ensbeg, 6-1 Thorntoun Gold, 14-1 Melody Queen.

3.15 SUNDAY MAIL HANDICAP
1m 1f 36yds £3,453 (9 declared)

1 (3) 232-00 Rossing Tooth (19) Mrs A Swinbank 4-10-0 .... G Parkin 77
2 (2) /004-5 Kalimat (28) R Fahey 4-9-13 .... J Fortune 88
3 (7) 6000-0 Trailblazer (89) C Thornton 4-8-2 .... Dean McKeown 79
4 (1) -11202 Raed (7) Mrs A Swinbank 5-9-1 .... G Duffield ●90
5 (5) -42012 Robin Lane (6) M Johnston 3-8-13 .... J Carroll 88
6 (8) 32-312 Chicomba (11) (CD) P Monteith 4-8-12 .... S Finnamore (7) 86
7 (4) 6-0320 Rosa Royale (22) W Storey 4-8-3 .... J Fanning 89
8 (9) 300601 Nobby Barnes (13) (CD) Enrico Incisa 9-7-13 .... Kim Tinkler 87
9 (6) -00018 Katie Komaite (13) (BF) Mrs G Rees 5-7-11 .... A Mackay ★ 87

Betting: 5-2 Raed, 4-1 Robin Lane, 6-1 Rosa Royale, 7-1 Nobby Barnes, 8-1 Kalimat, Katie Komaite.

3.45 STANLEY RACING CLASSIFIED STAKES
6f £2,346 (7 declared)

1 (4) 00-211 Sugarfield (13) (CD) Enrico Incisa 7-9-9 .... Kim Tinkler 87
2 (1) 006441 Just Bob (6) (CD) S Kettlewell 9-9-6 .... J Fortune ●98
3 (5) 00-104 Pride Of Brixton (33) C Thornton 5-8-6 .... Dean McKeown 85
4 (2) 352136 Ueshaken (27) (D) (BF) E Alston 4-8-6 .... L Charnock 86
5 (3) 21/000 Hyde Park (19) Sir M Prescott 4-9-3 .... G Duffield 77
6 (7) 0-0035 Johayro (11) (D) J Goldie 5-9-3 .... A Culhane 89
7 (6) 014061 Piccolo Cativo (5) (C) Mrs G Rees 3-8-10 .... Angela Hartley (7) 88

Betting: 11-4 Just Bob, 5-1 Sugarfield, Pride Of Brixton, Johayro, 11-2 Ueshaken, 7-1 Hyde Park, 8-1 Piccolo Cativo.

4.15 STANLEY RACING CLASSIFIED CLAIMING STAKES
1m 3f 16yds £2,346 (7 declared)

1 (5) 4-1364 Advance East (22) (BF) M Dods 6-9-9 .... Dale Gibson 88
2 (2) -50100 Ten Past Six (12) (D) M Wane 6-9-9 .... J Carroll ★ 87
3 (3) 4-5520 Durgams First (12) Mrs M Reveley 6-9-7 .... A Culhane ●90
4 (6) 000053 Marsoom (8) (D) Enrico Incisa 4-9-0 .... Kim Tinkler 88
5 (1) 51405- Philmist (214) (CD) Miss L Perratt 6-9-0 .... R Kennedy ★ 88
6 (4) 06535- Tibbi Blues (206) J Goldie 11-9-0 .... J Fortune 82
7 (7) 50-000 Swallow Warrior (8) T Etherington 3-8-0 .... R Winston (5) ★ 77

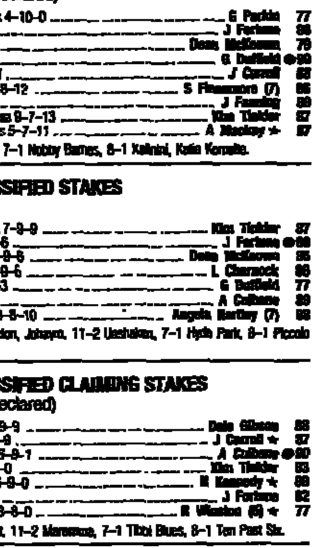
Betting: 5-2 Durgams First, 7-2 Advance East, Philmist, 11-2 Marsoom, 7-1 Tibbi Blues, 8-1 Ten Past Six.

4.45 BUSINESS PAGES APPRENTICE SERIES HANDICAP 3YO
1m 4f 17yds £2,637 (4 declared)

1 (1) 133154 Accystan (28) P Haslam 9-7 .... P Goode (5) 86
2 (2) 000-1 On Call (6) (6lb ex) M Prescott 8-9 .... Clare Lund (5) ●90
3 (3) 022003 Ruby Bear (8) W Brisbourne 7-10 .... J McAuley 87
4 (4) 065000 Ngaere Princess (11) W Kemp 7-10 .... P Bradley 78

Betting: 4-9 On Call, 7-2 Accystan, 13-2 Ruby Bear, 20-1 Ngaere Princess.

"THE SAMBA CAVALIERS ARE BEING RUN BY A BUNCH OF SHOE SALESMEN"



Kronenbourg 1664 See Friday's paper

Yesterday's racing

PONTEFRACT

2.45 (6f): 1, ANNO DOMINI, T Quinn (4-9 fav); **2, Call Me Lucky** (40-1); **3, Archie Babe** (33-1). 12 ran. 1, 3. (P Cole) Tote: £1.40; £1.10, £5.80, £11.30. Dual F: £22.60. CSF: £43.64. NR: Codicil.

3.15 (1m 4f 8yds): 1, HIGHBURY LEGEND, F Norton (8-1); **2, Sharp Shooter** (12-1); **3, Joli Flic** (10-1); **4, Dumas's Double** (2-1 fav). 18 ran. 1, 3, 1½. (Bob Jones) Tote: £7.90; £1.80, £2.50, £2.90, £1.20. Dual F: £64.80. Trio: £70.80. CSF: £73.69. Tricast: £681.80.

3.45 (6f): 1, POSITIVE AIR, T Quinn (20-1); **2, Angel Hill** (15-2); **3, Dominelle** (16-1). 7-4 fav Mouche. 11 ran. Nk, hd. (B McMahon) Tote: £38.30; £7.50, £2.30, £3.90. Dual F: £66.90. Trio: £463.20. CSF: £154.47. Tricast: £2,317.08.

4.15 (6f): 1, FIRST MUSICAL, D Mernagh (9-1); **2, Principality** (10-11 fav); **3, Light Fingered** (9-2). 4 ran. 1½, 2. (M Brittain) Tote: £5.60. Dual F: £4.40. CSF: £14.90.

4.45 (1m 2f): 1, NUNUMIDO, R Ffrench (11-8 fav); **2, Bolshoi Star** (3-1); **3, Kaid** (9-1). 6 ran. 6, 3. (L Cumani) Tote: £2.00; £1.50, £2.30. Dual F: £3.30. CSF: £5.47.

5.15 (1m 2f): 1, TAPATCH, S Finnamore (11-1); **2, Moving Away** (7-2); **3, No Citation** (5-2 fav). 9 ran. 1½, 1½. (M W Easterby) Tote: £18.30; £2.80, £1.80, £1.20. Dual F: £31.00. Trio: £29.60. CSF: £47.15. Tricast: £118.81.

JACKPOT: £91,925.80, part won. Pool of £45,362.78 carried forward to Chepstow.
PLACEPOT: £325.80. **QUADPOT:** £142.70.

SOUTHWELL

2.30 (1m): 1, DOMINO FLYER, G Duffield (15-2); **2, Genuine John** (11-2); **3, Cheerful Groom** (9-2 fav) dd/htd with **Holloway Melody** (14-1). 16 ran. 2½, ½. (Mrs A Swinbank) Tote: £11.00; £2.60, £2.00, Cheerful Groom £1.80, Holloway Melody £1.70. Dual F: £48.80. Trio: 2-5-6, £53.00; 5-6-13, £46.80. CSF: £46.27. Tricast: Domino Flyer, Genuine John, Cheerful Groom £101.65, Domino Flyer, Genuine John, Holloway Melody £278.84.

3.00 (1m 3f): 1, HEATHYARDS SHEIK, A McCarthy (evens fav); **2, Zorzal** (100-30); **3, Sharp Monkey** (9-1). 7 ran. 1½, 15. (R Hollinshead) Tote: £1.80; £1.10, £2.80. Dual F: £3.80. CSF: £4.36.

3.30 (1m 4f): 1, NORSKI LAD, G Duffield (4-5 fav); **2, Shuttlecock** (25-1); **3, Evezio Rufo** (10-1). 8 ran. 1¾, 6. (Sir Mark Prescott) Tote: £1.70; £1.10, £4.70, £2.50. Dual F: £34.70. CSF: £27.47. Tricast: £136.84.

4.00 (7f): 1, MINNESOTA, N Callan (9-4 jt-fav); **2, Danalcor** (9-4 jt-fav); **3, Mr Soliloquy** (3-1). 6 ran. Hd, 6. (N Callaghan) Tote: £2.30; £1.90, £1.30. Dual F: £3.90. CSF: £7.41.

4.30 (5f): 1, TRINA'S PET, G Duffield (evens fav); **2, Super Strides** (5-2); **3, Starvine** (5-1). 4 ran. 5, 1. (B Meehan) Tote: £1.70; Dual F: £1.80. CSF: £3.78.

5.00 (6f): 1, NITE OWLER, J Edmunds (10-1); **2, Petraco** (6-1); **3, Setonian** (HOS) (8-1). 10-11 fav Petite Danseuse. 11 ran. 2½, nk. (J Balding) Tote: £7.20; £3.00, £1.90, £3.80. Dual F: £14.80. Trio: £76.40. CSF: £64.10. Tricast: £463.47.
PLACEPOT: £54.80. **QUADPOT:** £26.80.

MUSSELBURGH

6.55 (2m): 1, URGENT REPLY, J Savage (5-2 Fav); **2, Mondragon** (100-30); **3, Braydon** (16-1). 8 ran. 4, ¾. (C Dwyer) Tote: £3.30; £1.10, £1.40, £3.80. Dual F: £4.50. CSF: £7.92. Tricast: £68.71.

7.25 (5f): 1, SUPER GIRL, G Faulkner (5-1); **2, Three Tenners** (15-1); **3, Chikapenny** (14-1). 4-1 Fav Sealed By Fate. 12 ran. Shd, ¾. (C Dwyer) Tote: £5.70; £2.10, £3.50, £2.10. Dual F: £35.80. Trio: £131.30. CSF: £57.94. Tricast: £967.27.

7.55 (1m 6f): 1, ALDWYCH ARROW, M Fenton (3-1 Co Fav); **2, Charlie Crusader** (5-1); **3, Slipstream** (3-1 Co Fav). 3-1 Co Fav Hiding Place. 6 ran. 2, 3½. (M Bell) Tote: £2.20; £1.70, £2.70. Dual F: £8.20. CSF: £14.22. NR: Master Hyde.

8.25 (1m 4f): 1, LUCKY BEGONIA, C Carver (4-5 Fav); **2, Prophits Pride** (10-1); **3, Fallopep** (6-4). 3 ran. ¾, 29. (A Carroll) Tote: £1.50. Dual F: £1.90. CSF: £5.42.

WINDSOR

6.40 (1m 67yds): 1, FINAL SETTLEMENT, A McGlone (4-1 Fav); **2, Fancy Design** (20-1); **3, Press Again** (50-1); **4, Southbury** (11-2). 18 ran. Hd, nk. (J Jenkins) Tote: £6.30; £1.40, £4.70, £16.80. Dual F: £160.10. CSF: £91.00. Tricast: £3,397.05.

7.10 (5f 10yds): 1, RED LION, G Carter (13-2); **2, Mujadana** (7-1); **3, Cheyenne Gold** (4-6 Fav). 9 ran. Nk, shd. (J Payne) Tote: £8.40; £1.90, £2.00, £1.30. Dual F: £41.80. Trio: £10.40. CSF: £48.72.

7.40 (6f): 1, GIPSY ROSE LEE, Pat Eddery (9-4); **2, She-Wolff** (11-8 Fav); **3, Sweet Charley** (7-1). 8 ran. Hd, 5. (B Meehan) Tote: £3.30; £1.40, £1.20, £1.80. Dual F: £3.00. CSF: £8.17.

8.10 (6f): 1, SIHAFI, P Doe (11-2); **2, Cauda Equina** (4-1); **3, Sanwar** (7-1). 7-2 Fav Delta Soleil. 11 ran. 2, ¾. (D Nicholls) Tote: £10.70; £2.20, £1.40, £2.20. Dual F: £18.60. Trio: £24.90. CSF: £25.34. Tricast: £150.24.

● George Duffield took the riding honours on Southwell's all-weather track yesterday with a 29-1 treble. The veteran jockey kicked off by taking the opening Chelsea Handicap on Domino Flyer, who got a nice run up the inside rail to head the pacemaking Genuine John halfway up the home straight.

Ann Swinbank, who trains the winner, said: "This horse is a bit of a monkey and George thought they were going too fast, but when he dropped him in behind the leaders the horse thought it was the cue for him to pull himself so he had to get busy."

● Duffield got the hot favourite Norski Lad home by just over a length from the pacemaking outsider Shuttlecock in the LB.M.S Handicap to give Newmarket trainer Sir Mark Prescott his tenth winner in the past fortnight.

Prescott said: "This fellow will make a nice jumper. He won over a longer trip on his reappearance but I think this mile and a half is his best distance at present. He will run on the turf at Salisbury next week."

● Duffield completed his treble when booting even-money favourite Trina's Pet home by five lengths in the seller.

Quinn on target with Pontefract double

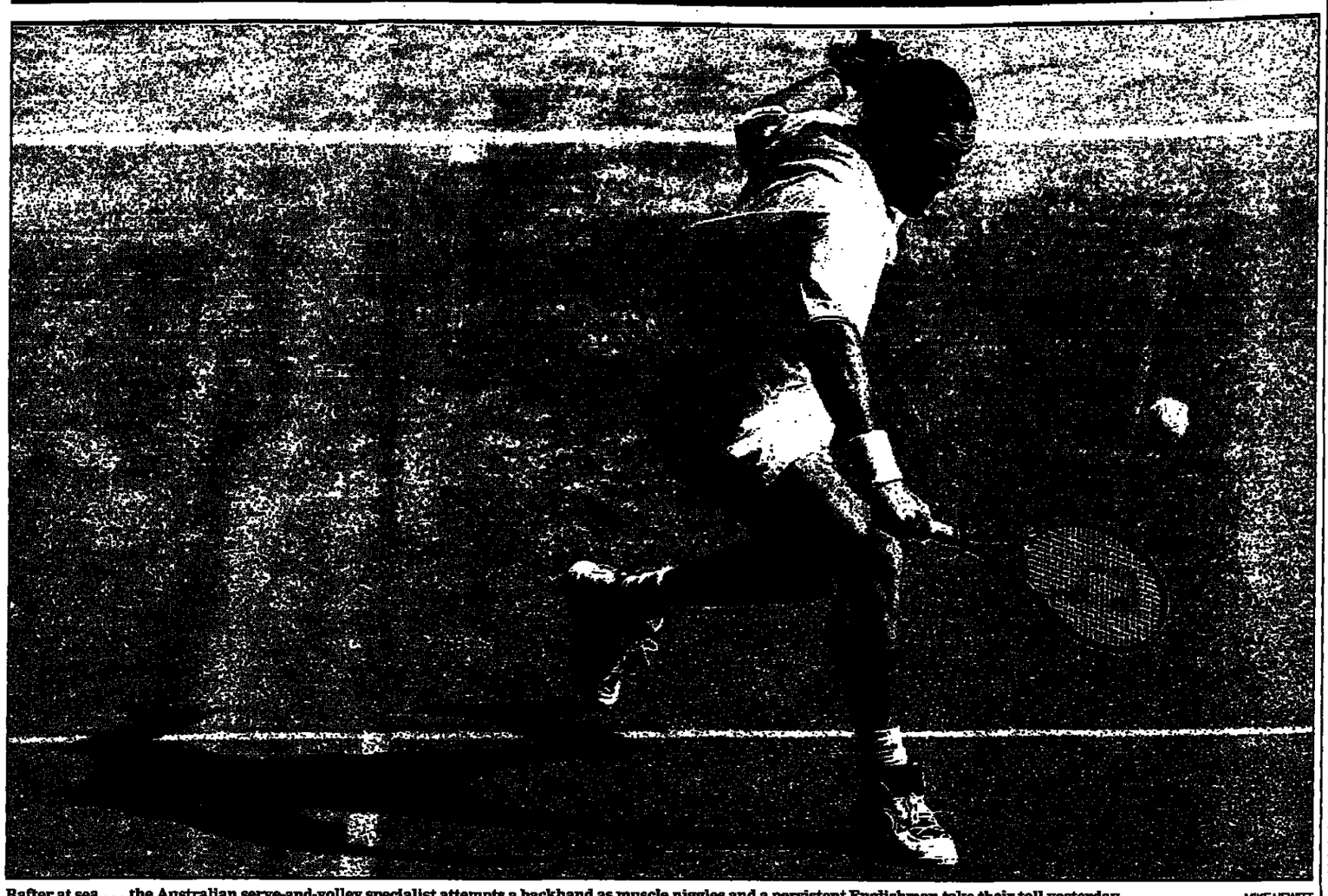
RICHARD QUINN does not make many trips to Pontefract, but it paid off yesterday when he rode a double on Anno Domini and Positive Air.

Anno Domini, who started 4-9 for the opening Robert Bowett Saab Maiden Auction Stakes, strolled home for a comfortable one length success.

If that success was expected, then Positive Air's win in the Tote Fillies' Handicap was something of a surprise. Going off at 20-1, the filly battled on well to score by a neck.

The winner was bred by her trainer Brian McMahon's wife Joy, and their son Edward said: "Richard gave her a peach of a ride."

Wimbledon 98



Rafter at sea . . . the Australian serve-and-volley specialist attempts a backhand as muscle niggles and a persistent Englishman take their toll yesterday MIKE HEWITT

Henman's you-beaut day

Stephen Bierley sees the hope of England earn a quarter-final with a good-looking win over the Australian US Open champion

TIM HENMAN began his fourth-round match against Australia's Pat Rafter in such dazzling light yesterday that it seemed Wimbledon, a place of damp and gloom for much of the time since these Championships began, had been transposed by the Earls Court mob to Melbourne.

"Come on Pat, mate," came the loud cry, reinforcing the somewhat surreal feeling as high summer suddenly and briefly returned to south-east London. But this was not to be the start of a "beaut" afternoon for Rafter. Henman began to dart around like a man released from a very dark place, and for the third successive year reached the quarter-finals, winning 6–3, 6–7, 6–3, 6–2.

"I wouldn't say I feel any different to any other years, but maybe the pressure is off a little because of the World Cup," said Henman, who opened up brilliantly against the US Open champion.

So tomorrow he is due to play Petr Korda of the Czech Republic for a place in the semi-finals, although this match may be in some doubt. Korda defeated John van Lottum of Holland 6–3, 6–4, 7–6, but fell heavily just before the third-set tie-break, injuring his left ankle. He was limping badly as his match finished and will receive treatment today in an effort to be ready.

The first service is the key to Henman's game and rarely can he have begun a big match serving with such consistency. There is no doubt he fancied his chances against Rafter, whose own strict serve-and-volley game meant Henman had few variations to worry about and could go for his passes with an extra sense of freedom.

Centre Court was full but initially the atmosphere was a touch subdued, probably because the majority of those present were certain Henman was going to win come what may. After all, he had done it twice before, hadn't he?

There are many for whom tennis and Wimbledon are synonymous, so the fact that Rafter had won some strange tournament at Flushing Meadow, and was seeded sixth, barely impinged on their patriotic thoughts.

Henman knew he needed to play far better than in his three matches of the first week when his form had been decidedly patchy. But from the moment his first serve, a grass-crunching ace, fizzed past Rafter's flailing grope, it was obvious that the British No. 2 was cocooned in concentration.

Neither Rafter nor Henman gave any hint of fissures in their game. If anything Rafter appeared a touch more inventive when rallies developed, but there was nothing in it until the combination of a double fault and a couple of wonderful shots by Henman saw the Australian drop his serve, thereby relinquishing the opening set.

Early in the second Rafter tapped his head with his racket as if to remind himself that he was a Grand Slam champion and that champions dig themselves out of holes with greater alacrity than ordinary men.

However, it was Henman who had wrapped a champion's cloak around his shoulders, and an exquisite acutely angled pass saw him break the Australian again. At 5–4 Henman served for the second set and then — and only then — his form dramatically deserted him.

A double fault sent a groan rumbling around the court like distant thunder; a second was greeted with disbelief, leaving Rafter to thump away a forehand winner off a poor Henman second serve to square the set.

The eventual tie-break was won 7–3 by Rafter with some ease. His own shots were now beginning to flow, whereas Henman was beginning to fret. Earlier he had pointed into the phalanx of photographers, saying: "Something was making a real cracking sort of sound." Perhaps it was his own nerve-ends.

It was vital that Henman began the third set resolutely, which he duly did. Having held his initial serve he immediately broke Rafter to love, with the Australian giving the first indications that he might be having trouble with his fitness.

Rafter is a fighter who never runs away or gives up in times of trouble but he lost the third set, needed treatment on his back at the start of the fourth and, as his serve slowed noticably, Henman took complete control.

"It was one of my best wins," said Henman, "if not the best."

Reports and results, pages 18 and 19

Unwelcome guests ready to party on their own



Jim White

DRIVING into Lens last Friday, with half an hour to go to the kick-off, it was like happening on a scene from High Noon. The entire town had shuttered up the shop in anticipation of the big showdown. There was no one on the streets; all that could be seen of the locals was a couple of brave souls peering from behind curtains, staring at our bus as if it carried visitors from Planet Unclean.

Outside the stadium, instead of a swirling street fiesta that is encountered before games involving other nations, when thousands of the ticketless congregate just to sample the party, there was no one — except a battery of riot police kitted out as if anticipating all-out thermonuclear war.

Thus are the matches involving England like no other in this World Cup. Inside the ground, whereas other games have boasted a multinational, multi-ethnic, cosmopolitan splurge, this one was watched by an overwhelmingly English audience with a thin line of Colombians squeezed into one corner. There was no fraternisation, no bonding in the international language of football. Everyone else stayed away.

Followers of other nations were not in Lens for two reasons: they were scared of our reputation and they knew they could turn a profit on the black market. So there was just us, relegated to our own little ghetto and paying through the nose for the privilege.

So those supporters of the England national team, who might actually like to engage in the same party everyone else is having at France 98 rather than behave like cretins, find themselves not invited. In a scaled-up version of the teacher who punishes the entire class for the misbehaviour of a couple of naughties at the back, 30,000 English people have been disenfranchised thanks to 500 or so morons in their midst. Not simply disenfranchised but obliged to run the gauntlet to get there.

Everyone in the stadium at Lens seemed to have a war story. These included the tour operator who, a fortnight ago, went to pick up the 5,000 tickets he had been allocated for his expensive hospitality packages right the way through to the final to be told there had been a mistake and his allocation was actually zero. He had spent two weeks engaging with a variety of sources in Paris and had so far managed to put his hands on 3,800. The tickets for the Lens game cost him £600 apiece, thus eradicating his profit margin at a stroke.

Most of these tickets were marked: "Guest of the Iranian Football Association". Which perhaps explains where the Iranians got the money to pay their players those huge bonuses awarded after beating the United States.

Yet, the atmosphere inside Stade Félix Bollaert was considerably better than anything else encountered in the tournament so far. Granted it wasn't as colourful or as good-natured and the Mexican waves were weak, insipid things. But there was a rawness, an excitement, a drive that had not been matched elsewhere. Never can there have been such an active crowd at a football match. Everyone joined in the chanting, right up to the occupants of the Royal Box (wonder if Charles and Harry got their tickets from the Iranians too).

It was as if the very difficulties — the searches, the booze bans, the ticket foul-ups, all those indications that they were not welcome at the party — had made those who made it all the more determined to participate. This, you could tell, was a game that really mattered. And it was plain, as the passion spilled down the stands, that it stimulated the players to greater efforts.

IT SEEMS that things will be much the same for tonight's game in St Etienne. Thanks to the French organising committee's decision to feed money into the black market, some 27,000 tickets have been sold to the locals who, scared witless by media accounts of the impending invasion of the brain-dead, will sell them on straight away.

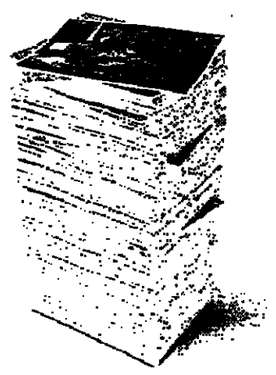
Apparently the touts are the one stratum of French society who have loved England's participation; what wonderful business they are enjoying, particularly as it seems only the Japanese strike a worse bargain in ticket negotiations than a desperate English fan.

And if it is true that a crowd can turn a game then the one which greets Alan Shearer and the lads when they trot out tonight will be fired up to do their bit. If the local papers are to be believed, the whole of France is united in its wish that the English will be on the plane home tomorrow morning. The irony is that, after what they have been through, there will be a collective effort from the visitors to stay and poop the party just a little longer.



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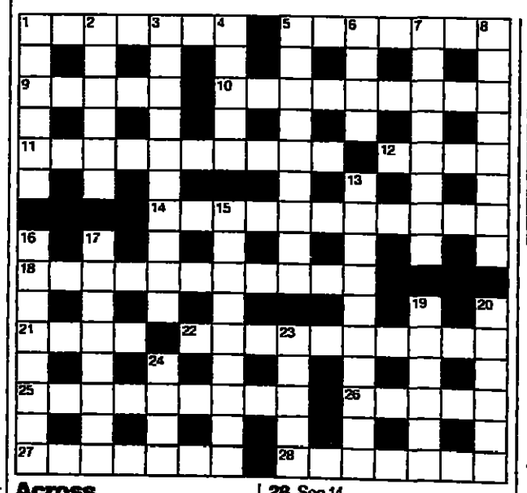
Lexmark Printers. So good you'll want to stay together forever. LEXMARK

The glut of nipples and pudenda follows years of relative prudishness in TV drama. What's interesting about these projects is that they are not only written by women, but form part of a plethora of programming scheduled to attract female viewers fleeing the World Cup.
Fleshing out the TV schedules

G2 page 5

Guardian Crossword No 21,314

Set by Bunthorne

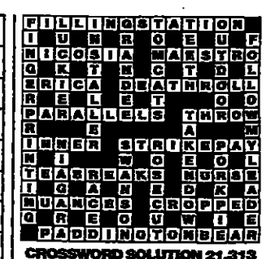


Across

1 See 24
5 24,1ac. a 6 with a 12, with 18,21,28. Get him! (7)
9 France's private oil supply without back-up (5)
10 Illustrated by Phiz, a door for single-cell occupants (9)
11 Revolutionary Eastern Jew invades Cheshire (10)
12 Six points for artistic interpretation (4)
14,18,21,28 "Ignore errant fatheads. Follow us!" (Here's poor Pope's conclusion) (5,4,2,5,6,4,2,5)
22 Old world object worker holds very dear (10)
25 Skinny slice of meat, a "no-use" mince (9)
26 Of which the first sees 14 (5)
27 Cunning bounder taking up little time with feet! (7)
28 See 14

Down

1 Firm kiss betrays one in the Russian's pocket (6)
2 Drove home through the woods (6)
3 Food additive extracted from fur slime: that's possible (10)
4 Badly hurt, many at a loose end (5)
5 Don't get fleas to, ie, jump (4,2,3)
6 Othello went up in space (4)
7 Uncle Arty's shoes were hot. Got it ? (3,5)
8 Car part that could be left behind (4,4)
13 One follows various loveless characters in a boat (10)
15 Number 11 bus going around empty: nothing heading for base ? (9)



CROSSWORD SOLUTION 21,313

16 Such appearances can be deceptive (3-5)
17 Formal training against current consuming (8)
19 He wrote for lawyers and bible classes on English (6)
20 Standing firm from point to cover (6)
23 Having second thoughts about this exam ? (5)
24,1across "Single couple" (5 across) (4,7)

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